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## Library Economy and Bibliography

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SPECIAL TERMS FOR LARGE ORDERS.

# THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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FEBRUARY has been a busy month in the library field, with its array of meetings, that deserve almost to be called conferences, from their dignity in point of numbers and in interest. The Interstate meeting held at Evanston, Ill., takes first rank among these gatherings, bringing together, as it did, 171 delegates from 11 states, ranging from New York and Massachusetts to Wisconsin and Minnesota. The joint meeting of the New York State Library Association and New York Library Club formed, as usual, an occasion for the meeting of many of the eastern workers, and was a close second to the Interstate meeting, with an attendance of 160 persons; while state meetings in Connecticut, Wisconsin, and elsewhere were of special interest. The question has been raised whether or not these large meetings, in which two or more state associations join, may not detract from the attendance at the general A. L. A. conference, and are not, therefore, to be deprecated. In a measure this question is justified, and the wisdom of frequent special conferences representing broad sections of country may be doubted, but it hardly seems that the danger feared is as yet a vital one.

THE state associations and local clubs are among the most important "feeders" of the American Library Association, for they bring library interests into the minds of many who are removed from the influence of the central association, and are prime factors in establishing that feeling of comradeship that knits the library profession so closely together. Joint meetings of the associations of neighboring states widen this home circle, broadening and freshening points of view, and give glimpses of the greater value and attractions of the national conference. The library meeting in Atlanta in 1895 was an entering wedge of library interests in several southern states; the large Wisconsin meeting of a year ago has borne fruit many-fold in the library development of the state and the high standards set for that development; and the Interstate meeting must have awakened a desire to be present at Chautauqua in the minds of some to whom the A. L. A. had hitherto been without personal significance. There

cannot fail to be some whose attendance at one important meeting means that another must be sacrificed, who if present at a joint meeting must forego the A. L. A. conference, and to all whose choice is thus restricted the national meeting should be the goal; but on the whole the extension of library activities means extension of interest in the work, and the seed sown at the local and joint meetings should bear fruit in larger attendance and deeper appreciation for the annual conferences.

PLANS for the Chautauqua conference advance apace, and from the outlines so far announced it is safe to predict that the meeting will be a noteworthy addition to the long array of successful conferences. The two special topics chosen for consideration are library training and home education, and about these the program will be grouped, in such fashion as to bring out the varied phases of each. Indeed, these two subjects touch to a surprising degree upon almost all details of library work, and afford scope for a comprehensive survey of present and future work in the library field; while at the same time, by means of the separate section plan, individual topics appealing to those in special lines of library work will be presented and discussed. The plan of having papers and reports printed and in the hands of members before the conference, will be followed, so far as practicable, in accordance with the vote passed at the Philadelphia conference, and it is thought that this will greatly facilitate general and intelligent discussion of the subjects brought up. The local arrangements promise excellently, combining rest with pleasant refreshment, and the change to the quiet of a rural meeting-place, after a succession of city conferences, will be generally appreciated. The date of the meeting, and the fact that it extends over a holiday, should make it possible for many to attend who could not otherwise arrange to do so, and all readers of the JOURNAL — whatever their library work or interests — should begin now to consider if it be not practicable to so arrange matters as to make attendance at Chautauqua in July a certainty rather than a vague hope. For it should

hardly be necessary to repeat what, despite its triteness, is too often disregarded—the fact that the library conferences are the most practical, effective, and direct means of increasing individual library efficiency; that they are, looked at solely from a business point of view, an investment that returns its cost many times in economy of time and labor and in broadening the field of library work, and that their value is not for one grade or class of library workers, but is of equal importance to all.

THE experiment of double sessions tried at the Philadelphia conference will be repeated at Chautauqua, and this time not as an experiment, but as a proved advantage. The difficulty of providing in one general program for the needs of several hundred persons, whose work though alike in essentials varies greatly in particulars, has within recent years become more and more obvious. The proposed solution of this difficulty by means of simultaneous sessions, or "section" meetings, to consider different branches of library work, was awaited with interest at Philadelphia, and the unanimous verdict was that this solution had proved a practicable and satisfactory one. The double program of last year, dealing with college and reference library work, and with elementary library work, covered both fields most creditably, and the subjects treated were so entirely distinct that the difficulty of choice was rendered less serious. There was, of course, natural regret over the corporeal limitations that made choice necessary; but of the success of the experiment there was no question. The possibilities that these section meetings offer for giving specific attention to specific branches of work and meeting individual needs of individual workers, make them valuable supplements to a general program. It is, of course, in its unity of aim and interest that the chief strength of a conference is found, and the danger of specialization lies in the possible substitution of many minor meetings for one united general assembly. But this danger is so remote as hardly to need mention. The section plan has been long in use in the N. E. A. and in other large national bodies, which have outgrown the limits of a single program, even as the library gatherings are now doing, and its successful introduction into the A. L. A. promises to add to the scope, and to greatly facilitate the work of future conferences.

It is barely three years since Columbia University library was made the recipient of Mr. Low's magnificent gift of one million dollars to be devoted to the construction of the new library building. Now that the library is fairly housed in the home thus generously provided, word comes of a second benefaction, this time of over one million dollars, given by Mr. J. F. Loubat as an endowment fund for the maintenance and development of the library. It is not often that gifts of this magnitude are to be recorded in the lifetime of the giver, and it is therefore specially interesting and gratifying that in both these cases the men who have so lavishly shown their appreciation of the library are able to behold the development that their generosity has made possible. Columbia is indeed fortunate, in the field that has been opened before it, and the broad basis of development that Mr. Loubat's rich benefaction assures makes its place among university libraries an especially enviable one.

### Communications.

#### CIRCULATION OF PHOTOGRAPHS.

THE New York Free Circulating Library is thinking of circulating photographs of artworks, buildings, etc., and is anxious to hear from other libraries in which the experiment has been tried. If the librarians of such libraries will communicate with the undersigned, they will confer a great favor.

ARTHUR E. BOSTWICK.

226 W. 42d st.,  
New York City.

#### A VALUABLE PUBLICATION.

IN looking up the question of constitutional conventions and American state constitutions, I came almost by accident on a title of the greatest value to librarians—"American constitutions," published at Albany in 1894 for the use of the constitutional convention of New York of that date. There are two volumes of American state constitutions up to 1894 and two volumes of European constitutions. The work is part and parcel of the "Convention manual of the sixth New York constitutional convention," and as such duly appears in the "State publication appendix" of the "American catalogue," but the reporting correspondent ought to have given details of the contents of the parts of the manual; e.g., part 2, vols. 1, 2, consists of the constitutions of every American state (N. S.) up to 1894, but is very stupidly edited. The index (so called, at the end) consists of a reprint of the separate indices already printed at the commencement of each constitution.

WILLIAM BEER.

HOWARD MEMORIAL LIBRARY,  
New Orleans, La.



## THE EFFECT OF THE "TWO-BOOK SYSTEM" ON CIRCULATION.\*

By E. A. BIRGE, *President Wisconsin Library Association, Dean of College of Letters and Science, University of Wisconsin.*

SEVERAL years ago my attention was directed to the two-book system in public libraries, and it seemed to me that an investigation of the effect of this system on circulation might be of interest to librarians. Accordingly, I sent out, last December, a circular to all free public libraries in the United States containing 5000 or more volumes,† making inquiries regarding the effect of this system on the circulation, both in its amount and character. In the latter particular two possibilities were suggested in the circular. The effect of issuing two books might be to lead the borrower, who would otherwise read only fiction, to extend his reading into the other classes of literature, or the two-book privilege might induce the reader of solid literature to add a novel to the work which he would otherwise take. The two-book system might, therefore, increase or diminish the percentage of fiction in the circulation of the library, and it was to this point especially that my attention has been directed in the inquiry.

Something more than 400 circulars were sent out and 316 replies have been received—between 75% and 80%—many being accompanied with long and valuable letters from the librarians, whose aid I wish to acknowledge with the warmest thanks. Most of the 100 libraries which did not respond were small, having between 5000 and 10,000 volumes. About 30 libraries having more than 10,000 volumes failed to respond, and a second circular was sent to them, bringing in return 15 replies. The reports are, therefore, fairly complete for the libraries of the country containing more than 10,000 volumes.

140 libraries of those which reported employ the two-book system; 176 do not. I include in the first list only those libraries which extend the two-book privilege to all, or most, of the patrons of the library. I do not include those libraries which grant the privilege of two or more books to teachers or special students only.

\*A paper read before the Interstate library meeting, held at Evanston, Ill., February 22, 1898.

†The circular was also sent to a few smaller libraries, especially in Wisconsin.

DATE OF ADOPTING THE TWO-BOOK PRIVILEGE.—Most of these libraries adopted the two-book privilege since 1893, as the following table shows:

Libraries adopting the two-book system as follows:

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| Earlier than 1892 ..... | 22  |
| In 1892 .....           | 1   |
| " 1893 .....            | 3   |
| " 1894 .....            | 15  |
| " 1895 .....            | 28  |
| " 1896 .....            | 36  |
| " 1897 .....            | 27  |
| Not stated .....        | 8   |
| Total ... ..            | 140 |

In view of the decline in the number of libraries adopting the system in 1897, we shall not be far wrong if we estimate that about 160 public libraries of 5000 or more volumes employ the two-book system.

I was surprised at the large number of libraries which have been employing the two-book system for many years. Certainly no library can claim a patent on the idea. Boston began the custom in 1852; Peacedale, R. I., claims it in the same year; Worcester, Mass., has had it for many years; Marysville, Cal., founded in 1859, has "always" employed it, as have Alameda, Cal., Lexington, Mass., and Portland, Ore. Cleveland, O., adopted it "20 years ago," as did Bay City, Mich. Fort Dodge, Iowa, claims to have used the system in 1872; Petaluma, Cal., in 1880, and the Apprentices' Library, Philadelphia, in 1882. Woonsocket, R. I., employed it from the founding of the library in 1865; Emporia, Kansas, in 1884; Norfolk, Ct., in 1889; Peoria, Ill., in 1889-90. It is plain from the returns that in some of these libraries the custom was a survival of the habits of a "social library" rather than a system adopted to meet the needs of the public library, and to enable it to perform more perfectly its services to the community.

In 1894, Mr. C. K. Bolton, the librarian of the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, published an article in the LIBRARY JOURNAL, which was the proper beginning of the recent movement

toward the method, and with its appearance began a rapid change to the system on the part of many of the larger and more progressive libraries. This is the true origin of the two-book system, as a system to be investigated, and I am not concerned to decide as to the first appearance of the practice. It was certainly found in 1894 in libraries scattered from Massachusetts to Oregon and California, but its presence did not influence libraries to any marked degree before the appearance of Mr. Bolton's article.

In the distribution of libraries using the system, there are some points of interest. I addressed 14 circulars to libraries in Maine and received every one back, carefully filled out, but no library in the state uses the system; all are small except that of Portland. Indiana reports only one two-book library—Terre Haute. Iowa, one—Fort Dodge. In Connecticut 11 libraries responded out of 14 addressed, and all but two employ the two-book system. This is the largest proportion in any state in favor of the system.

RELATION OF SIZE OF LIBRARY TO METHOD OF CIRCULATION. — The following table shows that the size of the library has had a considerable influence on the method of circulation adopted:

| No. vols.      | Two-book<br>Libraries. | One-book<br>Libraries. |
|----------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| 5,000—10,000   | 39                     | 76                     |
| 10,000—20,000  | 49                     | 60                     |
| 20,000—50,000  | 37                     | 27                     |
| 50,000—75,000  | 7                      | 7                      |
| 75,000—100,000 | 2                      | 2                      |
| 100,000—+      | 6                      | 4                      |
| Total          | 140                    | 176                    |

It thus appears that of the libraries which reported, about 34 per cent. of those smaller than 10,000 volumes employ the system; about 44 per cent. of those between 10,000 and 20,000 volumes; while of libraries above 20,000, over 57 per cent. issue two books. Most of the excess above 50 per cent. lies in the libraries between 20,000 and 50,000 volumes, and, as will be seen later, the advantages of this system to the great libraries are less than to the smaller ones.

METHOD OF ISSUING TWO BOOKS. — It is not my purpose to discuss the numerous forms of card in use by the two-book libraries. The most common type is that devised by the Brookline library. I find that 78 libraries issue two books on one card, while 55 report that they employ

two cards. In New England, outside of Massachusetts, and in the Middle States, two cards are used in the majority of libraries, while in Massachusetts and the West the tendency is strongly the other way.

PROPORTION OF PATRONS MAKING USE OF THE TWO-BOOK PRIVILEGE. — I have not been successful in securing statistics on this point; the weakest part of library statistics is the number of patrons. Some libraries have numbered their cards consecutively through many years, and in no case is a library able to state an exact number of "live cards." In most cases no return was made by the library to my question regarding the number of patrons using the two-book system, and usually where an answer was given, it was an estimate—"small," "large," "nearly all," etc. I have the impression, however, that a larger proportion of patrons make use of the system where one card is employed than where two cards are used. This is perhaps due to the fact that two cards will be used in libraries which regard the granting of two books as a sort of privilege, and so, formally or unconsciously, restrict it. 14 libraries, 10 per cent. of the whole number, deny the privilege of two books to children.

RESTRICTIONS ON BOOKS. — 23 libraries report that they have no rule on this subject. Most of the others permit only one work of fiction to be drawn at once. Several report that they allow only one new book, and this rule is doubtless a practical necessity in many libraries which do not report it.

EFFECT OF THE TWO-BOOK SYSTEM ON THE QUANTITY OF CIRCULATION. — The issuing of two books to one person undoubtedly increases the circulation of the library beyond what would be the case if one book were issued, yet I find in my correspondence quite exaggerated estimates of this effect, in letters from both advocates and opponents of the system.

The following table shows the ratio of the annual circulation to the number of volumes in libraries of various sizes, as reported to me:

| No. vols. | 5,000<br>to<br>10,000 | 10,000<br>to<br>20,000 | 20,000<br>to<br>50,000 | 50,000<br>to<br>100,000 | 100,000<br>to<br>+ | Av.  |
|-----------|-----------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|------|
| Two books | 3.50                  | 3.88                   | 3.44                   | 3.50                    | 3.33               | 3.49 |
| One book  | 2.80                  | 3.38                   | 2.81                   | 3.38                    | 3.62               | 3.29 |
| Average   | 3.06                  | 3.63                   | 3.21                   | 3.43                    | 3.42               | 3.38 |

It will be seen that the increase of the circulation in two-book libraries is greater in the smaller libraries, and that in the largest libraries the larger circulation is found among those

using the one-book system. It must be remembered that the list of one-book libraries necessarily includes most of those whose books are least well selected and whose administration is least efficient. Their circulation would be under the average in any case. I cannot believe, therefore, that the system adds greatly to the average circulation, although doubtless it does so in individual cases. If we look at the libraries whose circulation is largest in proportion to the number of volumes, we find them among the libraries using the two-book system. Philadelphia, with an annual circulation of over 14 volumes for each book in the library, heads the list.\* St. Joseph, Mo., with a circulation of 120,000 volumes from a library of 10,000, comes next. Both of these use the two-book system. Los Angeles, Cal., circulates 11.8 volumes for each book in the library, employing the one-book system. These three libraries are conspicuous for their large circulation. Very few others circulate more than five or six books annually for each volume on the shelves. The Boston Public Library circulates only 1.4 volumes annually for each book in the library. It is obvious that this difference in circulation depends on the selection of the books and the character of the library, as almost wholly circulating or as one which makes the reference department an important feature of its work.

It seems to be generally true that only a small number of persons habitually take two books at once, and undoubtedly a considerable proportion of those who do so draw the second book for another member of the family. In the latter case the free issuing of cards to different members of the family would result in an equal circulation on the one-book system. I can see no evidence to warrant the idea, which seems to be somewhat prevalent among librarians, that the two-book system as such would nearly double the circulation of the library. Still more chimerical is the notion that the two-book system enables the librarians to "pad" the circulation by getting patrons to carry home books which they do not read. Doubtless the librarian in a small library who had little else to do might give her mind to "padding" the circulation and could secure some results. Perhaps she might even circulate her Patent Office reports in this way by making their acceptance a condition of taking

a popular novel. But it is clear that the same amount of attention bestowed upon legitimate means of increasing circulation would be likely to have more effect, and that the librarian who employed such means of swelling the apparent circulation would probably not be so efficient in other ways as to secure a large circulation of books really popular.

EFFECT ON THE QUALITY OF THE CIRCULATION. — The effect of the two-book system on the quantity of the circulation is far less important than its effect upon the quality of the reading done by the patrons of the library. It has been the main end of my investigation to ascertain what qualitative effect the two-book system exerts on the reading, and to determine, if possible, how great this effect may be. For this purpose it is most convenient to divide the circulation of the library into two classes — fiction and non-fiction. Since the general tendency of unguided reading and of reading for amusement merely is toward fiction, the elevating effect of the two-book system, if any is present, will be shown by a decrease, either absolute or relative, in the amount of fiction read, and an increase in books from other classes. To the determination of this effect I have given most of my attention.

If I may judge from the scores of letters which librarians have recently sent me, their particular aversion is that variety of the human family which they term "the inveterate," "the confirmed," or "the persistent" reader of novels. It is in my thought to offer at this point a few words, if not in defence, at least in explanation of this poor creature. I do this for more than one reason. First, I am not in any way responsible for his existence, nor does my duty call upon me to improve his character. Holding this independent position, I am perhaps able to judge him somewhat more dispassionately than if my position called upon me to reform him. Second, I sympathize strongly with Jowett's opinion that "there are few ways in which people can be better employed than in reading a good novel." I am conscious of a very long list of novels charged to me at the public library, and I am not at all sure that a strict librarian would not include me among the "inveterate novel readers."

There are several facts which must be frankly recognized by all of us, and especially by the librarian, whose aim is to improve the character of the circulation of his library.

We must recognize that our age and race

\*One branch only of this library reported to me.

write and read fiction. We must recognize this as a natural tendency of the age, not to be condemned or regretted, but to be accepted as the peculiar manifestation of the literary temper of this generation. We must also recognize and accept with equal frankness the fact that much, if not most, reading will be done for pleasure and relaxation; that is to say, human nature is so constituted that men—and women too—will attempt to get their thoughts outside of the routine of daily duties in some way, and we cannot help seeing that for most people of the modern world fiction furnishes one of the easiest ways of escape from the hard facts of life into the freedom of the imagination.

It is to secure this freedom that most of the best reading is done. It is the peculiar function of poetry to carry its lover into the realm of fancy, to enable him to see by the "light that never was on sea or land." It *may* instruct or elevate; it *must* amuse, in the best and highest sense of that word. Doubtless some read poetry from a sense of duty, seek "fresh woods and pastures new" for an imaginative constitutional, prescribe to themselves doses of various poets to enable this or that emotion properly to dilate. They are like the unsociable youth whom I once advised to cultivate society, or more concretely, "to invite a girl to go to picnics with him." "Yes, Professor, I have often thought it would be good discipline for me." Now, as no girl would accept an invitation to aid in social discipline, so the Muses are deaf to those who would cultivate their society from a feeling of duty. You may get from such reading the sense of duty performed, but you cannot catch the spirit of the poetry which you read; that comes to a wholly different temper. But what poetry does for the more delicately organized and cultivated natures, the novel does for us all. It offers an easy way into the world of the imagination, and makes that world homelike because peopled with creatures of like passions with ourselves. The imagination of each of us finds a level beyond which it cannot rise. Few are so refined as to feel at ease in Shelley's rarefied atmosphere, and for like reasons the minds of many, if not the majority of readers, find the atmosphere of all higher imaginative works too attenuated, and are comfortable only in the lower levels of fiction.

A second fact of human nature, which we are always wont to forget, is that of mental inertia. I was much impressed by a phrase in a letter from Bridgeport, Ct.: "The habitual

reader of fiction *gains courage* to experiment with popular works on history, etc." I do not know whether the writer intended to emphasize the words which I have italicized, but I think there is required a genuine exercise of courage when the novel reader passes to another class of literature. At all events there is a great amount of mental inertia to be overcome when anyone passes from a class of literature to which he has become habituated to a class that is unfamiliar. We become conscious of this inertia in ourselves when called upon to do any unusual task. I think that most of us would hesitate to try to learn analytical geometry, or even to read Mill's "Logic." At any rate, I should think long before attempting either task. I know my own feeling when duty calls upon me to read a scientific paper written, say, in Swedish or Italian, and I can keenly sympathize with him who hesitates to change his novel for biography.

To undertake a new kind of book is to venture the mind into an untried country. Doubtless, the journey may succeed and you may discover a new world, but unless you are bolder than many you will hesitate to risk yourself in the experiment unless you are fully assured that the new world is enough better than the old to be worth discovery. This inertia is a fundamental fact of the mind for everyone. The range of different minds differs enormously in extent, but even those whose education is the best and widest find it no easy task to carry their reading far beyond the limits of the region which is familiar to them.

This mental inertia on the part of readers explains the hold which an author, as such, independently of the merits of his last book, has on his readers. Why are readers so anxious for some other work by Roe or by Dickens, if the book of their choice is not available? It is part of this same mental inertia—part of the same characteristic which resolves life itself for most men into a succession of commonplace duties. So it comes about that an author may, in Trollope's phrase, "spawn upon the public" an unlimited succession of works indistinguishable from each other except by name, yet each and all beloved of his wide constituency of readers.

There are, therefore, three facts which the librarian is bound to accept as furnishing an important part of the conditions under which he works: (1) Our age and race naturally turn toward fiction. (2) For most persons profit in



reading will be incidental to pleasure, and not the reverse. (3) While it is comparatively easy for a person to increase the amount of his reading—this being merely a function of the time devoted to reading—it is a far more difficult task so to overcome his mental inertia as to extend his reading into new classes of literature.

If these facts are accepted, it is easy for the librarian to understand the existence of the inveterate novel reader. The pressure of daily duties, the tendency of the age, and mental inertia—greatest in those of least education—make it certain that a not inconsiderable proportion of the patrons of the library will read fiction, either exclusively or in far greater proportion than any other class of literature. Yet the bare acceptance of these facts is not the duty of the librarian. He must recognize them as the public cannot do. But it is his prime duty as an educator to extend the range of literature within which the individual reader can find pleasure and profit. All persons, except the most highly educated, need aid, and much aid, if they are to pass from reading one class of books to find themselves at ease in a different literary field. To aid them in this mental growth is a task which often requires the employment of the greatest tact and delicacy. The best qualities of an educator are demanded for its successful accomplishment.

I was interested in the following letter from a librarian: \* "I consider it a rather delicate matter to regulate the reading of patrons. It may be the only luxury and amusement a person has, and it would be ridiculous to insist upon his taking a book of biography instead of fiction. We see but a small portion of our readers' lives. We do not know their environment. We keep trash and unwholesome books off our shelves and trust much to the judgment of our patrons." It seems to me that this quotation expresses the true temper toward this side of the librarian's work. This endeavor to widen the mental horizon of the reader is one which must be made with the greatest care and consideration for the reader. The mental enlargement must come slowly and imperceptibly by natural growth, aided and not forced by the librarian. The reader, even the "inveterate novel reader," may be turned from his erratic ways, but if he is to be converted at all, it must ordinarily be done without either convicting

him of sin or obliging him to go up to the anxious seat. It is in the performance of this task that the two-book system offers its best services. It enables the librarian to add to the habitual reading of the borrower a book of another class carefully selected and adapted to his individual taste. Thus, the system, while of very little value as a mechanical device, lends important aid to the librarian who regards himself as an educator of the community. It enables him to educate without trying to reform his patrons; to teach without compelling them to learn; to widen their mental horizon in a natural, sympathetic way; in a word, it enables him to aid their mental growth without posing as a teacher or making his patrons feel that they are the objects of a reform.

There is considerable difficulty in determining the effect of the two-book system on the quality of circulation. The important fact to be determined is the relative circulation of fiction as compared with other classes of literature; but even this simple relation is not easily ascertained. The chief difficulty in the way lies in the various methods in which the libraries keep their statistics. Some libraries include all children's books together as "juvenile"; others class juvenile fiction as a part of general fiction; others still class juvenile books and fiction together. Of course, these methods give very different results, as the percentage of fiction is higher in the reading of children than in that of adults.

It is, therefore, impossible to use the statistics from all libraries on the same basis, and practically our consideration is confined to those libraries which report the juvenile literature and the adult fiction separately. From these libraries, numbering altogether 112—51 two-book and 61 one-book—it appears that the average percentage of juvenile literature in the total circulation is close to 23 per cent., averaging 23.4 per cent. in the one-book libraries and 23.5 per cent. in the two-book libraries.

In the very large libraries the percentage of fiction is smaller in any case than in the small libraries, and there is no great difference between the one-book and two-book libraries in this particular. In libraries with a very small circulation the percentage of fiction depends so greatly upon the supply of new books that statistics from them are of little use. Taking libraries with an annual circulation between 10,000 and 250,000 volumes, I find 54 two-book libraries whose total circulation contains an

\* Akron, Ohio, M. P. Edgerton.



average of 54.1 per cent. of adult fiction, and 75 one-book libraries with 58.1 one per cent. of adult fiction. Among the two-book libraries, I include only those which have employed the system more than one year. Those which have employed it for only a fraction of a year are included in the one-book libraries. If we neglect the fractions of a per cent. we may give as average results the following table :

## PERCENTILE CIRCULATION.

|                          | Two-book<br>Libraries. | One-book<br>Libraries. |
|--------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Juvenile .....           | 23                     | 23                     |
| Fiction.....             | 54                     | 58                     |
| Other adult literature.. | 23                     | 19                     |

In the adult reading the proportions are approximately as follows :

|                    | Two-book<br>Libraries. | One-book<br>Libraries. |
|--------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| Fiction.....       | 70                     | 75                     |
| Other reading..... | 30                     | 25                     |

That is to say, the two-book libraries are circulating from 15 per cent. to 25 per cent. more adult literature outside of fiction than are the libraries employing the one-book system.

An average result not widely different from this is reached by comparing the changes of circulation in those libraries which report statistics before and after employing the two-book system. 42 libraries make this report. Of these, 14 include fiction and juvenile literature together. The other 28 show an average loss of 3.4 per cent. in adult fiction (64.2 per cent. to 60.8 per cent.), which agrees as closely as could be expected with the results of comparing the two classes of libraries. If all 42 libraries are compared by taking the difference in the circulation of fiction, or fiction and juvenile literature, before employing the two-book system and afterward, and supposing that all the difference falls on fiction, the following results will be obtained : In six libraries the circulation of fiction was increased by an amount varying from .4 per cent. to 4 per cent. In four libraries the circulation of fiction remained unchanged, while in the remainder the percentage of fiction was reduced by an amount varying from 1 per cent. to 20 per cent. of the total circulation. The average change in the percentage of fiction by adopting the two-book system is almost exactly 3 per cent.

We cannot, therefore, be far wrong in asserting that in libraries employing the two-book system the percentage of solid literature in the total circulation is from 3 per cent. to 4

per cent. greater than in libraries using the one-book system. That is to say, such libraries circulate from 15 per cent. to 20 per cent. more of solid literature than do the others.

Such average statistics as these are more or less misleading, though they may fairly represent the minimum result which the two-book system is capable of reaching. They are misleading for several reasons: First, the averages are deduced from numbers which vary considerably. The amount of fiction in adult reading ranges from 43 per cent. to 90 per cent. in the two-book libraries, and the range in the other libraries is just about the same. Yet it remains true that whenever libraries are compared, whether they are classed by size, by circulation, or by locality, the percentage of fiction in the two-book libraries is the smaller. As an example of grouping by locality, I may instance the following : The three states Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, reported 15 two-book libraries, in which fiction is 50.5 per cent. of the total circulation, and 18 one-book libraries, in which fiction amounts to 57 per cent. of the total circulation. The minimum percentage of fiction in each case is Cleveland, with 40.6 per cent. for the two-book libraries, and for the others, Chicago, with 40.8 per cent.

A second source of error lies in the impossibility of knowing the relation of the supply of books, especially of new books, to the demands of the community, yet this relation has an important influence upon the character of the circulation. The great city libraries aim to provide all books needed and in a number of copies, considerable if not sufficient. It is interesting to see that the tendency here is to a more uniform character of circulation and to a lower percentage of fiction.

## TWO-BOOK LIBRARIES.

|                                 | Circulation. | Fiction.                |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Cleveland....                   | 783,000      | 51% of adult reading.   |
| Milwaukee...                    | 417,000      | 45% " "                 |
| Minneapolis..                   | 559,000      | 58% " "                 |
| N. Y. Free Circ.<br>Library.... | 973,000      | 54% " "                 |
| St. Louis.....                  | 551,000      | 78% incl. juv. fiction. |

## ONE-BOOK LIBRARIES.

|                | Circulation. | Fiction.                |
|----------------|--------------|-------------------------|
| Jersey City... | 416,000      | 80% incl. juv. fiction. |
| Detroit.....   | 464,000      | 60% of adult reading.   |
| Chicago.....   | 1,216,000    | 53% " "                 |
| Los Angeles..  | 571,000      | 49% " "                 |

In the above list the libraries show a percentage of fiction ordinarily much below the average, and it would seem probable that when books are supplied freely and in sufficient number of copies, the percentage of fiction in adult reading will be from 50 per cent. to 60 per cent. It can hardly be supposed that in these very large libraries the attendants are able to influence greatly the choice of books on the part of readers, and these figures ought to represent the natural tendency of adult readers, as far as such returns can do. A considerable proportion, therefore, of the excessive circulation of fiction in smaller towns may fairly be attributed to the necessarily larger relative supply of this class of books in the libraries. In the smallest libraries, where the supply of new books is very limited, the percentage of fiction may be very small, or very large, according to the nature of purchases. The lowest reported is 25 per cent. This effect of the quantity and the selection of books on circulation cannot be eliminated from the returns. A third error arises from averaging together the returns of libraries in which the two-book or the one-book system may be administered vigorously or inefficiently. On the whole, this error tends to the disadvantage of the two-book libraries, since the success of that system depends greatly upon the vigor of the administration. It should further be noted that the difference between the libraries using the two systems is by no means due to the effect of the two-book system alone. This point will be illustrated in a later section.

**POSSIBILITIES OF THE TWO-BOOK SYSTEM.** — So far, I have dealt with averages only, but the results which can be reached under a system are more important than average results obtained. I propose, therefore, briefly to speak of the results reached in several of the libraries from which I have received more complete returns. Perhaps the most noteworthy result is that of Helena, Mont. In this library the circulation increased from 63,000 to 80,000, an increase of nearly one-third and wholly due to the increased reading of books other than fiction. Fiction, indeed, declined from 50,000 to 49,000. The change was brought about not merely by the adoption of the new system, as is shown in the following extract from a letter:

"You will see at a glance that there has been in the last two or three years a remarkable reduction in the percentage of fiction read from this library and that reduction is more remark-

able in case of the young people than otherwise. This has come about from effort and not as a matter of chance, although we have not been able to put forth all the effort that we have desired to exert for a better class of reading. There has been a remarkable increase in the percentage of the loans to young people as compared with the total loans for the library. We have endeavored to put forth our special effort for the children and young people. As to the effect of the two-book privilege, one can only judge in a general way from observation; statistics cannot tell the story fully. It has had a striking effect on the character of the reading, I feel quite sure, but this is not the only force that has been working for an increase in the use of the non-fiction parts of the library. About nine months ago a considerable portion of the loan department — all, in fact, except fiction — was thrown open, so that the public could go to the shelves to make their own selections of reading matter. This, I am sure, has had a great deal to do with the reduction in our percentage of fiction reading. Then there is another element that must be reckoned with, the element of personal helpfulness. Suggestion, advice, and skilful answers to questions have a great deal to do in guiding into good channels the reading of the community."

In Milwaukee 75 per cent. of the increase in adult reading (97,000) is in other classes than fiction. In Bridgeport, Ct., with an annual circulation of 146,000, the percentage of fiction and juvenile books has declined 11 per cent., and nearly the entire increase of circulation has come in the solid reading. In the Webster Free Library, New York, where the circulation has increased from 26,000 to 42,000, 15,000 of the increase has been in books other than fiction. In the New York Free Circulating Library, where the circulation has increased from 750,000 to 970,000, the circulation in fiction and juveniles has increased between 20 per cent. and 25 per cent., while 50 per cent. has been added to the circulation of reading other than fiction.

As examples of small libraries I may cite the following:

In Lancaster, Mass., the circulation increased from about 12,000 in 1894 to 28,000 in 1897, an increase of 16,000. During the same period fiction increased from 8000 to 8100. "It is the opinion of the librarian that the increase noted above is almost wholly caused by the adoption of the two-book system." In Canton, Mass., the two-book system was introduced in May, 1896. "The percentage of fiction had been between 93 and 94. Since the introduction of the system the percentage has been slowly but steadily declining, reaching 83.8 in November, 1897. Lancaster is a manufacturing town and

the patrons of the library are mainly of the laboring class. The circulation has increased little, if any." (Circulation 19,000.) Windsor, Vermont, has an annual circulation between 8000 and 9000, and estimates its "live books" at 7500. The report from this library extended over eight years; four years before the adoption of the two-book system, and four years since. The average circulation of these two periods has increased from 8100 to 8400. The circulation of fiction has fallen off nearly 100 books annually, and that of other literature has increased more than 400. I have selected these examples from libraries of all sizes, not as indicating the greatest possible changes in circulation, but the changes which actually come where the librarians use care in the control of the circulation.

THE EFFECT OF RESTRICTING THE CHARACTER OF THE SECOND BOOK. — In most libraries only one work of fiction can be taken at once, and many libraries consider this restriction as absolutely essential. There are reported 23 libraries in which no restriction exists on the character of the second book taken. In 14 the percentage of fiction can be stated, and while it averages higher in these libraries than in others, it is not very much greater, and in many cases the percentage of fiction is below the average. I quote as of especial interest in this particular the letters from Lexington, Mass.:

\* "Everyone was allowed to take all the books he wanted, though, of course, we had to look out for the children and a few others, so that they did not abuse the privilege. But I do not think this happened more than a dozen times in 12 years. There was no restraint put upon fiction, but the percentage rarely went above 60. For the last six months the children had access to the juvenile books, but I do not think the percentage of fiction increased on that account."

† "We make no restriction with the residents of the town as regards the number or character of books one may draw, provided the privileges of the library are not abused. We do not find that the system results in an increased use of lighter literature, but indeed quite the contrary." (Vols. 16,000, circulation 31,000, fiction 50 per cent.)

The fact is, I think, that the public is not so wedded to fiction as to be unable to enjoy other kinds of reading when proper guidance is furnished by the librarian. I believe that the librarian in a library of moderate size makes far more difference in the character of the circula-

tion than can be effected by any rule. I have no doubt that the rule helps the librarian, but, in the absence of a rule, the public will not rush to fiction unless the librarian is weak or incompetent.

EFFECT OF THE METHOD OF ISSUING TWO BOOKS. — In this matter statistics are impossible, but the choice of method is not without influence on the working of the system. If the object of the two-book system is to secure an increased use of solid literature, the general rule should be to adopt the method which will be of widest application and will necessitate the least machinery. My own feeling is distinctly in favor of the use of one card, although I quite fully recognize that the use of either one or two cards presents certain administrative advantages and difficulties. It is evident that the form adopted by the Brookline library has served as a model for many others. A division of this card into a "general" and a "non-fiction" portion, or into "fiction" and "other works" (as in Brookline), or the use of a "fiction" and a "non-fiction" card, seem unfortunate, as such methods distinctly encourage the use of fiction. One librarian employing two cards mentions this difficulty and cites the case of a boy applying for two cards, "one for fiction and the other for truth." If the charging system of the library is such that the card must be divided, the divisions should be numbered, or otherwise designated by terms which will not indicate the character of the book drawn. Least of all should headings be used which imply that one-half of the books drawn ought to be fiction.

OPINIONS OF LIBRARIANS. — I have received a very large number of letters in connection with the replies to my circular; many of them of great interest. I had hoped to include in this paper numerous extracts from these letters, but the length which it has already reached forbids me to do more than briefly to summarize some of the most important points.

Most of the opinions that I received regarding the two-book system were favorable; many of them were enthusiastic. From the libraries not employing the system, I received 25 favorable opinions regarding it, many librarians stating that they were considering the adoption of the system, or had already recommended it. Of course, unfavorable opinions were also received, though their number was small, not exceeding a dozen. Most of the unfavorable judgments were based on the sup-

\* Cary Library, Florence E. Whitcher, former librarian for 12 years.

† Marian P. Kirkland, present librarian.

position that the use of the two-book system would involve a great increase in the reading of fiction, an idea which my statistics show to be erroneous. Two or three librarians only were strongly opposed to the system on principle. The most vigorous protest came from the Mechanics' Library, New York, whose librarian regards the system as "in the nature of a fraud and expressly devised to get a larger grip on the public pap." He thinks the circulation thus produced is fictitious and the morality artificial, and regards the system as a fraud and a delusion. On the other hand, the librarian of the Webster Free Library, also on the East Side of New York and working chiefly among the very poor, speaks enthusiastically of the effect of the system in directing his readers to serious literature, and closes by saying: "By all means use your influence for the two-book and open-shelf systems." Other unfavorable opinions are based on the alleged hopelessness of reforming the inveterate novel reader. From Vermont and from Illinois I received the statement that "inveterate novel readers read nothing but novels, and lovers of good literature never read fiction," so that the two-book system is useless except as increasing the quantity of reading.

Many librarians emphasize the great use of the system in extending the amount and improving the quality of reading on the part of their younger patrons, especially those of high-school age. One librarian states, "nearly all of the children eagerly claim the second card and make a very intelligent use of it. It has done more for the use of the library by the schools than the teachers' card." (Brockton, Mass.) Similar statements have been received from all parts of the country, from Massachusetts to California.

Somewhat more important perhaps are those letters which urge that the two-book system by itself is of little profit, but must be made a part of a serious attempt on the part of the librarians to improve the quality of their patrons' reading. One writes, "We help in the selection of books in every way possible, trying to lead into biography and history from historical fiction." (Akron, O.) Another says that the two-book system of itself produces little effect; the change "is in large measure due to the methods we adopt to call attention to and emphasize the value of books of solid worth. (Butte, Mont.); another, "I have introduced the two-book system, recommending what I

think will interest. My idea is to make the influence of the library felt." (Johnstown, R. I.) This whole matter is well summed up in the words, "It is the personal work of the attendants at the desk that counts more than anything else." (Bloomington, Ill.)

Since my circular called attention to a possible increase in the circulation of fiction by enabling those who read solid literature to add a work of fiction, many librarians specifically mention this point in their replies. I think, without exception, the statement was made that the result of the two-book system has been to increase the use of the solid literature rather than to alter the character of the reading of those who enjoy literature from other classes than fiction.

It is hardly necessary for me to use much time in elaborating the conclusions which may be drawn from my inquiry. No one can examine in detail the statistics that I have brought together without seeing clearly that there is no magical charm in the two-book system as a system by which the reading of the community will be improved. It is quite possible that under this system the amount of fiction read will be increased rather than diminished. It is quite possible that the system, so far from extending the range of literature read by the patrons of the library, may tend rather to narrow it. Such a result may well be reached when the privilege of receiving two books is used without care and without discrimination by the librarian — when it is worked simply as a mechanical system. Under such circumstances it must fail — it ought to fail. In no department of education can success be reached by a system which is mechanically administered. Educational success comes from the living influence of the educator.

But the educator can be greatly aided or hindered by the methods employed, and the statistics and the opinions of librarians which I have received make it clear that the two-book system forms an important aid to the librarian who is endeavoring to use to the full his influence as an educator, affording him an easy method of introducing his patrons to new ranges of literature. Intelligently and sympathetically employed in connection with the other educational means which the library affords, it is one of the most important aids to the library in performing its highest service to the community.



## LOCAL CARTOGRAPHY.\*

THE recent appearance of two works upon the cartography of Virginia and Maryland calls attention to the importance of this subject. Mr. Phillips, in his "Virginia cartography," has given us a list of the maps of Virginia arranged in chronological order. The first map recorded bears the date of 1585, the last that of 1893. In all there are about 200, 201 if we have counted them correctly, showing that the state has been of much interest to map-makers. As it was a seat of active operations during two important wars, we naturally look for an increased output of maps at these times, and are not surprised, therefore, to find that from 1776-82, 34 maps are enumerated, while from 1861-65 we find 30. This latter number seems disproportionately small, when we consider the magnitude of the military operations of the latter period as compared with those of the former. If we have not misjudged, the author has intentionally omitted all territorial divisions smaller than the county, thus excluding many maps of single battles. We see, therefore, none of the maps contained in the atlas to the "War of the Rebellion series," published by the government. He has also excluded all maps which cover a larger territory than that of which he treats, for had he not rigidly followed this rule his list would have been much larger, but without a corresponding increase in its value.

In general, the entry of each map consists of its title and that of the book or atlas in which it is to be found, wherever it was not published separately. Whenever the map is a copy of, or is based upon, an earlier one, this fact is also brought out in a subsequent paragraph. A few of the earlier maps seemed to require a more amplified treatment, and Mr. Phillips has in such cases given the public the benefit of his laborious researches in the somewhat more extended notes and quotations which follow their mention. This is especially the case in the map of 1585 and its author, John With; Captain John Smith's map of Virginia of 1608; Lord Baltimore's map (1635); Virginia Farrer's map of 1651; Augustine Herman's map of 1670; and Henry May's map of 1770. To these maps nearly one-half of his monograph is given. The whole is followed by an excellent index of authors and dates.

We now turn to Mr. Mathews' work. It is not our purpose to examine his bibliography further than to say that it appears to have been compiled with great care and faithfulness, and the notes which follow the several entries cannot but prove of great value to the student of the physiography, geology, or mineral resources

of Maryland. This as well as the cartography is arranged in chronological order, an arrangement which has certain advantages when accompanied with a good alphabetical index, but which in a great measure defeats its own ends when lacking such an index, as it does in this case.

The scope of Mr. Mathews' list of maps is broader than that of Mr. Phillips, for he apparently includes all maps of which the state of Maryland forms even a part. As a consequence, we have nearly 600 entries in this work against about 200 in that of Mr. Phillips. This number would be still larger if we counted each of the maps contained in several county and other atlases, which are here counted as single entries. Mr. Mathews' treatment of each map seems to us more to be commended than that adopted in the "Virginia cartography." After the title and the work in which it appears, is given, as a rule, the size and scale of each map, with some of its distinguishing characteristics, such as its style of engraving and the extent of territory embraced. These further additions may be based upon Mr. Phillips' earlier experience, as there are numerous references to his name. We must not neglect to notice a feature which ought to appear more frequently in bibliographical works; that is, the indication of the library in which the work recorded may be found. This information appears in nearly every entry. The typographical work is excellent and leaves nothing to be desired.

Since writing the above, our attention has been called by Mr. Wilberforce Eames, of the Lenox Library, to a third work of this kind which covers, in part, the same field as those already mentioned. Though it appeared before either of them, for purposes of comparison, it may not be out of place to notice it here.

Mr. Baker's list of maps of Washington and the District of Columbia is preceded by a historical essay, giving an account of the various surveys and maps undertaken by the government and private individuals. Then follows his list of 61 maps. Size and scale are given in every case as well as such further information as will assist in the identification of each map, should the same be met with separately. It seems to us that this is the criterion by which any bibliography of maps must be tested.

This author's method of giving a historical sketch of his subject enables him to impart, in an interesting and readable manner, much valuable information, which, but for this way of utilizing it, would have appeared as annotations in his list of maps.

Of the three methods employed by the writers of these works, it seems to us that that employed by Mr. Baker is a model which his successors might have followed to their advantage.

It should be borne in mind that the difficulties attendant upon the proper description of maps are more numerous than those which occur in the cataloging of books. They are not only more numerous, but they are of an entirely different nature. Given a book with its original binding and its title-page, and the veriest tyro can make a reasonably correct

\*1. Virginia cartography: a bibliographical description; by P. Lee Phillips. (Smithsonian miscellaneous collections; 1039.) Washington, 1896. 85 p., 8°. 2. Bibliography and cartography of Maryland; including publications relating to the physiography, geology, and mineral resources. By Edward B. Mathews. (Maryland Geological survey. Special publication, vol. 1, pt. 4.) Baltimore, July, 1897. p. [231]-401, 8°. 3. Surveys and maps of the District of Columbia; by Marcus Baker. (National Geographic Magazine, vol. 6, Nov. 1, 1894.) p. 149-176. Washington, [1894]. p. 149-176 and cover. 1 plate, 8°.



entry. Take the same book, tear off its cover, destroy its title-page and all, or nearly all, of its introductory pages, and the solution of the question becomes quite another matter. Maps may not inaptly be compared to such books, deprived of all, or nearly all of the means usually employed for their identification and description.

Maps come to us in all shapes and conditions; sometimes singly, torn from their original environment, sometimes bound up miscellaneously with others of their unfortunate fellows. The question to be solved is where and when and in connection with what work, if any, did each of these maps originally appear. Sometimes, but very, very rarely, the title of the map assists us in answering these questions; but it is more than likely that the title will give us no assistance. We find, perchance, the surveyor's name, or that of the engraver, one or both, perhaps neither. Such being the case, it is apparent that some code of rules for their treatment ought to be compiled, in order to secure more uniformity of treatment in puzzling cases. Such rules, to be of any value, must be based upon actual experience in the study of maps. We make no claim to have an extended experience in this line, but have had a little with some old Dutch maps, most of which have been extracted from atlases. Most of these maps have descriptive matter printed on their backs. In order to distinguish such maps from one another, and to have a record whereby to identify them, when the same map is found, if ever, in its original atlas, we have prepared the following table to be followed when cataloging them, viz.:—

## MAP.

1. Printer or publisher.
2. Title.
3. Place, date.
4. Size (metric system).
5. Scale (metric system).
6. Print or colors.
7. Survey; relative location of title, scale, and compass on the map itself; whether latitude and longitude are, or are not indicated, and how; name of engraver or lithographer.
8. Borders.
9. Remarks; section or side maps described in the same manner as the main map.

## TEXT.

1. Title.
2. Pages or pagination.
3. Size (leaf).
4. Letter-press (size).
5. Type and number of lines.
6. Signatures.
7. Catchwords.
8. First and last lines.
9. Remarks.

## SOURCE.

Copy of title-page of book in which map is found, including place and date, with page at which the map may be found.

The fulness of this scheme has a double advantage. If you first find the map in some

atlas or book, you have all the data necessary to identify the map when a stray copy of it comes floating your way. If, on the other hand, the detached map is met with first, you have all the data which it can give, of itself, and you are on the watch to complete the record when the proper occasion comes for doing so.

This scheme is here given simply as a suggestion to others who have had a more extended experience in this study, in hopes that it will lead to some further expressions upon the subject.

The subject is one of great importance. Maps, as usually printed, are of a very ephemeral nature. Printed separately, but little importance is attached to them, when the events which called them into existence have passed by. Printed to be folded and inserted in a book, they are too often insecurely attached, and at best are liable to be torn and otherwise injured every time they are consulted, unless the utmost care is exercised. If folded and inserted in a pocket at the end of the volume, as is often done, they run the risk of going astray and of ultimate loss.

Every map worthy of being printed should be mounted on muslin or some other equally good material, either in its entirety, or dissected and then mounted. This once done its chances of survival will be increased several hundred-fold.

We cannot better close than by calling attention to the remarks of Mr. Phillips upon the proper appreciation which ought to exist concerning maps and the care which should be exercised in their preservation. He says:

"In this country the importance of maps has until recently been little appreciated; few libraries can boast a good collection, and the ones they have are so carelessly indexed that they are mostly inaccessible.

"When a thought is given to the inestimable value of authentic historic data, there is reason to regret and wonder why maps should not receive the care in keeping with their importance.

"How many volumes of great rarity in our libraries would be made doubly so if the much too frequent 'wanting map' could be returned to its domicile!

"The literary hobbyist, or I should rather say the uneducated vandal, who, anxious to collect all on a given subject, will slash and destroy whatever is not in his line, is responsible for much labor to the bibliographer, for in preserving the map alone he has made it difficult to identify its past history."

It is a pleasure for scholars and students to know that these are the sentiments of one who is the custodian of the invaluable collection of charts and maps in the Library of Congress, and that his classification and arrangement of that collection will render it more valuable and accessible to the public than it has heretofore been. It is not too much to hope that from this very fact we shall see in the near future a growing interest in the subject of American local cartography. Meantime we cannot but appreciate the labors of those whose works we have now under consideration.

GEORGE WATSON COLE.

## INTER-LIBRARY LOANS.

THE library of the University of California has adopted the system of inter-library loans of books and invites the co-operation of other libraries in carrying it out. Mr Rowell has issued a circular to librarians, explaining the new plan, and stating that "the growing demands of scholars, incapable of satisfaction by any one library, and the economical management of library finances, unitedly prompt a closer relation, a vital union, between the larger libraries of our country." The rules regulating the inter-library loan system, as adopted by the university, are as follows:

1. Under direction and by permission of the committee on library and museum, the librarian of the university is authorized to loan books to other libraries of the United States, which are willing reciprocally to loan books to the University of California Library, and under the following conditions:

2. The borrowing library shall be responsible for all books while loaned and in transit, and shall make good any loss or damage to the satisfaction of the lending library.

3. Books shall be sent and returned by express (not by mail), and all expense of carriage, both ways, shall be paid by the borrowing library. Books must be packed with great care to prevent damage while in transit.

4. Upon receipt and upon return of borrowed books the respective librarians shall immediately send acknowledgment; and any claim for damage must be based on collation and examination made immediately after the return of books.

5. Books in frequent use, or those of excessive rarity or of extraordinary value, may be loaned only at the discretion of the librarian, with the approval of the committee on library. The period for which loans are granted is left to the discretion of the librarian.

## THE TRAVELLING LIBRARY MOVEMENT.

THE Northern Minnesota Travelling Library Association was organized at Duluth, Minn., on Feb. 14, when a meeting was held under the auspices of the women's clubs of Duluth. Miss Gratia Countryman, of the Minneapolis Public Library, was the prime mover in the work, and she had the co-operation of representatives of the women's clubs and of the superintendent of schools. Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, assisted, and her enthusiastic aid was one of the chief factors in the success of the meeting.

The meeting was opened in the afternoon with an address of welcome by Mrs. J. L. Washburn, who presided. The first paper, on "What women's clubs have done for libraries in Minnesota," was by Mrs. Chester McKusick, of Duluth, who said that of the 16 public libraries in the state 13 had been organized through the efforts of women and their clubs.

Mrs. H. C. Marshall spoke on "The relation of the library to women and to youth," and Mrs. M. S. Anderson, of Minneapolis, discussed "Women in library management." The principal address was by Miss Stearns, on "Travelling libraries," and her vivid pictures of her experiences as a library missionary in remote hamlets and farming regions of Wisconsin were touching and inspiring. The actual subject of the meeting was practically and clearly presented by Miss Countryman, who spoke on "What Duluth women may do for travelling libraries," urging that Duluth be made the centre of an effective system, that should branch out through the state. General discussion followed, and a committee was appointed, consisting of one delegate from each club represented, to consider plans for carrying out the work. The committee met during a recess, and afterwards reported that organization had been effected, and submitted the constitution of the Northern Minnesota Travelling Library Association, which was adopted. All club members and any others interested in the work may become members of the association, and an executive committee composed of delegates from each club elects officers and transacts business. Pledges of books were then in order, and guarantees from 13 clubs were received, that will give the association about 500 books with which to start work.

The evening session was held in the high school library, and was opened by Mrs. J. L. Washburn, who gave a report of the afternoon meeting and the hopeful prospects of the enterprise. Dr. Hosmer, of the Minneapolis Public Library, spoke on "The use of books," touching upon the various classes of literature and the influence they exerted upon life. Other speakers were Mrs. W. S. Woodbridge, on "The travelling library as an antidote to the saloon"; Miss Countryman, Miss Stearns, whose talk was illustrated by a series of excellent stereopticon views; and President McNeill, of the Superior Normal School.

The establishment of the Northern Minnesota Travelling Library Association gives the state two centres for travelling library activities, for a growing work in this field has for some time been carried on in Hennepin county, under the auspices of the Minneapolis Public Library, and it is believed that the extension of the system to the mining regions of the north will have far-reaching effects.

The travelling library has also made recent progress in Kentucky, in which state it was introduced about a year ago. The work is carried on by the state federation of women's clubs, and six travelling libraries are already in circulation among the mountain districts, remaining three months at the appointed stations. Mrs. C. P. Barnes, of Louisville, is chairman of the committee on travelling libraries. Free transportation has been given by the Louisville & Nashville R.R. Co. to all boxes sent along its route, and it is hoped that it will not be long before the system is extended into other outlying regions of the state.

## TRAVELLING LIBRARIES IN OHIO.

THE Ohio State Library Commission was appointed in May, 1896, and soon after its organization in the following June adopted the policy of making the state library free to every citizen of the state. In order to reach the people at a distance from the capital, the travelling library system was decided upon, to be effective in the fall of that year. This gave three months in which to advertise the fact and to make preparation to meet the demand for books from the resources of the library, for there had been no special appropriation of money for the purpose of travelling libraries, as in some of the sister states.

The newspapers heralded this new departure in the library's administration, and it was not long until inquiries for further information came in large numbers, while on Nov. 9, 1896, the first travelling library in the state was sent to a woman's literary club.

From its inception the travelling library movement has had the sympathy and intelligent co-operation of the State Federation of Women's Clubs. Quick to see the advantage of the travelling library in the work of club extension, committees were set to work organizing clubs in small towns and villages. The clubs thus organized were instructed as to the means of procuring a library, and as a result in less than three months from the establishment of the system the women of 20 clubs in as many different parts of the state were reading, studying, and enjoying books from the state library.

Still the back districts were not heard from, and the next step was to interest the farmer. Through the agricultural papers of the state and the official paper of the Grange organizations, of which there are about 400, the library has been enabled to do this, and nearly 50 of the Granges have received and are using travelling libraries.

Another field ripe for the harvest is the district school. But some of the directors do not regard the movement with favor, and while teachers appreciate the assistance a library would be to them in their work, they are handicapped by too conservative trustees who believed reading will keep the children from study. One young teacher who applied for a library said, "I just had to beg the directors to allow me to get the books." By another year it is hoped the directors can be brought to see the educational value of books that are not text-books; but even now all school directors are not so narrow, and the district school is fairly represented among the travelling library users.

A little more than a year has elapsed since the inauguration of the system, and in that time over 100 libraries, averaging 25 volumes each, have been sent through the state, carrying in their wake both pleasure and profit.

When the legislature realizes the potency of the travelling library as an educational factor, it is hoped that it will vote an appropriation for the purpose that will permit the extension of the work and make the Ohio State Library indeed the "people's university."

ALICE BOARDMAN.

## INTERSTATE LIBRARY CONFERENCE.

THE Interstate library conference held in Evanston, Ill., on Feb. 21 and 22, pursuant to the call printed in the February L. J., proved most interesting and successful. There were present 171 delegates, representing the following states: Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, New York, Rhode Island, Massachusetts. The program was carried out with but slight deviations, and the social features of the gathering were most enjoyable. The program committee had wisely planned short sessions, giving frequent intervals for rest and sociability, and the assignment of name cards to every delegate on registration proved a happy thought, making introductions unnecessary. The visitors were welcomed by the general reception committee, consisting of the chairman, Miss Lodilla Ambrose, assisted by the local committee, the officers of the Chicago Library Club, and representatives of the leading libraries of Chicago and vicinity. Much regret was expressed at the illness of Mr. W. W. Bishop, of Evanston, to whose efforts as chairman of the program committee much of the success of the program was due, and it was a disappointment to all that he was unable to attend any of the meetings. Most of the visitors registered at the Public Library, and from there were conducted to the Avenue House, the headquarters hotel. Unfortunately a genuine blizzard swept over the states that were to be represented at the conference and interfered with the attendance of many who had planned to come; but despite the storm there was a goodly representation.

The meeting was opened at 2.30 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 21, in the assembly hall of the Orrington Lunt Library, of Northwestern University, which was attractively decorated with yellow jonquils tied with purple ribbons—the college colors. Col. J. W. Thompson, president of the Illinois Library Association, presided, and briefly stated the motives and aims of the conference—which were to cultivate wider acquaintance among librarians, to strengthen interest in state organizations, and to bring about closer relations between the colleges and the public libraries. President Henry Wade Rogers, of Northwestern University, delivered the address of welcome, commenting upon the present as "an age of conventions and clubs," referring to the work accomplished in the library field to aid and simplify study and research, and expressing the hearty appreciation of this work accorded by colleges and universities.

Miss L. E. Stearns, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, followed with a clear, practical, and attractive talk on "How to organize a public library in a small town." She said that the library conditions that obtained in the west were but little understood in the eastern part of the country. Many of the communities in the west are bearing heavy burdens of taxes caused by waterworks, sewerage, pavements, erection of schoolhouses, and other local improvements. Then again, retired farmers, who have moved into the cities that their children may obtain better school advantages, are

often found opposed to anything that increases the tax in the slightest degree. There are also whole districts of Germans, Poles, Swedes, and Bohemians, that have known nothing in the fatherland of the advantages derived from free public libraries, while the fact that the west is much less thickly settled than the east imposes the burden of taxes on a larger number in proportion. Miss Stearns stated that there are many ways in which these difficulties might be overcome. The various state library associations should not make a practice of holding their meetings in the larger towns, but should oftentimes hold meetings in communities where such conferences would arouse interest in the library movement and the organization of public libraries. The large libraries in each state can do good missionary work by allowing an enthusiastic assistant the necessary time for library missionary work. In arousing local interest, where a good local spirit prevails, it is sometimes well to hold a mass-meeting, at which should be set forth the many advantages accruing to the children, women's clubs, the working men, the professional men, and the business men. In other communities, where the tax rate is high, it is well to proceed quietly, having a small meeting of those interested and willing to back the enterprise. In many communities in the west, at least, where there is no state aid, it is best to start a library with a few subscriptions, making the library free to all, however, and then sustain it until the town or village sees fit to adopt it. Details concerning the qualifications which the board of trustees should possess, and also the necessary attributes of the librarian were described, and in the matter of the selection of books Miss Stearns advised a plentiful supply of fiction, citing the case of the washer-woman who wished a book with a "mystery" in it, as showing the place which the library fills in being a centre of public happiness.

"The two-book system" was considered by Dr. E. A. Birge, in the paper printed elsewhere in this issue (*see* p. 93), and an interesting discussion followed, opened by Mr. H. M. Utley, of the Detroit Public Library.

Miss Linda A. Eastman spoke on "The library and the children," reviewing the work done in this direction at the Cleveland Public Library, and after informal discussion and some minor business the session was adjourned.

In the evening the conference reassembled and listened to an inspiring address by Dr. E. G. Hirsch, of Chicago, on "The library a people's university," after which an informal reception was held in the rooms of the University Guild. The guests were received by President and Mrs. Henry Wade Rogers, Col. J. W. Thompson, Miss Ambrose, Dr. Hirsch, and Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Hopkins, and a delightful social hour was spent.

Tuesday morning's session opened at 9.30, Dr. E. A. Birge presiding. Reports on state aid to travelling libraries were called for, and given for Iowa, Ohio, and Michigan. Mrs. Lana H. Cope, state librarian of Iowa, reported the success of the system in that state,

where 200 applications are on hand for the use of the 50 libraries established by the state library in 1897, and where a bill asking for the appropriation of \$10,000 for the extension of the work has just been introduced into the legislature; Ohio was represented, in the absence of State Librarian Galbreath, by Miss E. H. Smyth, of the state library, who said that up to February, 1898, 200 libraries of 25 v. each had been sent out, and a special appropriation was hoped for this year; and Mr. Utley spoke for Michigan, in the absence of the state librarian, stating that ever since the adoption of the system in 1895 the demand for the libraries had far exceeded the supply.

"The history and legal standing of the Ohio State Library Commission" was the subject of a paper by R. P. Hayes, president of the commission, which was of far broader scope than the title would imply. It was in fact a summary of library legislation as a whole, pointing out the personal and special point of view with which most library laws have been framed, the lack of system in the national and state libraries, and the way in which, in many states, the state library is used as a political football rather than as a medium of public education. He touched also upon state aid to libraries, approving the travelling library system as the most effective and useful means of affording such aid, and urged the importance of action on the part of the American Library Association toward obtaining general systematic library legislation.

A short discussion followed, and in answer to questions, Mr. Hayes said that books were sent from the Ohio State Library to those desiring them, by express, the greatest expense to any one library having been \$1.40, paid by a library in the far northeastern part of the state, 175 miles from Columbus.

Judge C. G. Neely, of Evanston, spoke on "Libraries in jails," stating that the "prison population" of the United States was 82,000 in 1890, and urging the importance of establishing jail libraries and making them influences for good.

"Libraries in manufacturing communities" were described by Mrs. M. A. Sanders, of the Pawtucket (R. I.) Public Library, who also spoke of her work in connection with reform schools. She said: "If there are two things that go hand in hand, it is libraries and reform. If there is anything in library work it is in its missionary work. The library's work is in reaching the people as well as in spreading books. There is nothing that can do better work in reformatories than libraries."

Mr. F. A. Hutchins, of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission, reviewed "Recent library legislation in Wisconsin," giving an interesting account of the notable library development in that state. The morning session was closed promptly to allow the visitors to reach the Evanston Free Public Library in the city hall, where a "free lunch" had been announced for 12 o'clock. Upon arrival at the library the guests were received in the council chamber by the directors of the library, with their wives,



and by Miss Lindsay and her staff. The decorations used were appropriate to the day, the room being hung with flags of all nations, prominent among which were the national colors draping a portrait of Washington. The table decorations were of red, white, and blue, and the college colors were brought into play in the souvenirs, which consisted of tiny purple hatchets lettered in gilt with name and date of the conference, and tied with narrow yellow ribbon. Luncheon was served by the young ladies of the library staff, and while it was in progress Miss Hazeltine, of the James Prendergast Library, of Jamestown, N. Y., was introduced, and in a few graceful words announced the coming conference of the American Library Association at Lakewood-on-Chautauqua, and on behalf of the local committee, of which she is chairman, extended a cordial invitation to all to attend that conference in July.

On Tuesday afternoon section meetings were held, one for assistants, and one for consideration of college, school, and reference library work. The former was presided over by Mr. F. W. Faxon, and opened with a practical paper on "Arranging and cataloging scraps," by Miss M. M. Oakley, of the Wisconsin State Historical Society. Miss C. H. Foye, of the John Crerar Library, spoke on "The care of pamphlets," and advocated individual binding rather than combining many pamphlets into one volume. "The Sunday-school library" was the subject of a paper by William Yust, of the University of Chicago Library, based upon data obtained through personal examination of the Sunday-school libraries of Chicago. "Book-binding from a librarian's standpoint" was discussed by Miss Gertrude Woodard, of the State Normal Library, of Ypsilanti, Mich., whose interesting talk abounded in practical hints; and Miss Gratia Countryman presented a capital paper on "Should public libraries purchase books in foreign languages for foreigners in their cities?" answering the question in the affirmative, as the result of practical experience.

The college section met in the memorial hall of Garrett Biblical Institute, Miss Katharine L. Sharp presiding. Mr. F. L. Bliss, who was to have opened the session with a paper on "The high-school library," was unavoidably absent, and a paper on that subject, contributed to fill his place, by Miss Rebecca I. Thompson, of Franklin, Ind., was received too late for reading. An interesting discussion of the high-school library and its relation with the public library was, nevertheless, held. It was opened by Miss Stearns, who described the organization of the Library Department of the N. E. A. in Buffalo in 1896, and the appointment of a committee at the Milwaukee meeting of 1897 to report on a list of books suitable for all grades. Miss Coffin, of the Aurora (Ill.) Public Library, spoke of the library maintained by one of the high schools in that city, and Miss Cornelia Marvin emphasized the need of good catalogs, the use of reference-books by pupils, and a competent librarian as the essential features of a high-school library.

Mr. C. W. Andrews, of John Crerar Library, described "The analytical card index to current periodicals undertaken by the Publishing Section of the A. L. A.," and Miss E. D. Swan, of Purdue University, spoke on "The care of college and school catalogs."

In the absence of Mr. A. S. Root, his paper on "Collections of works of alumni and faculties in college libraries" was not read. Mrs. Z. A. Dixson, of the University of Chicago, said that they had endeavored to collect all articles by professors and students, and had found much difficulty in so doing until the university senate ordered that two copies of all printed matter passing through the university press go to the library.

Methods of obtaining and preserving theses presented to universities by candidates for degrees were discussed by Mr. A. H. Hopkins, Mr. Smith of the University of Wisconsin, Mr. Torrey of the University of Chicago, and others, and it was decided to refer the subject to the College Section of the A. L. A. for further consideration.

The final session was held on Tuesday evening, Mr. R. P. Hayes presiding. Oscar Bluemner, of Chicago, read a paper on "Essentials of a library building"; Mr. F. W. Faxon spoke on "The use of magazines in reference work," and Miss Merica Hoagland, president of the Indiana Union of Literary Clubs, presented a paper on "Libraries and literary clubs." For the close of the session Miss Ambrose had planned a pleasant surprise, consisting of a violin solo by Miss Olive Beason, of the University School of Music, and readings from "A Kentucky cardinal," by Miss May Peterson and Miss Janet Atwood, of the Cumnock School of Oratory. Resolutions thanking all those who had so effectively contributed to the pleasure and profit of the conference, and extending the thanks and sympathy of the conference to Mr. W. W. Bishop, were unanimously carried. This closed the session, and after a pleasant social hour spent in the reading-room, where were displayed some of the rare books belonging to the university, the final good-byes were said and the interstate conference was a thing of the past.

### American Library Association.

*President:* Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston, Mass.

*Secretary:* Melvil Dewey, New York State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

#### MEETING OF TRUSTEES' SECTION.

A MEETING of the Trustees' Section of the American Library Association was held in New York City in connection with the joint meeting of the New York State Library Association and the New York Library Club, on Thursday, Feb. 17. The meeting was called to order at 4 p.m., with Mr. Alexander Maitland in the chair. The members of the local committee present were Alexander Maitland, Dr. H. M. Leipzig,



and Dr. J. S. Billings, and in all 30 trustees responded to the call, this being the largest attendance yet brought together at a section meeting. Among those present were: Andrew H. Green, of the New York Public Library; Mr. Hershfield and Mrs. E. R. Benjamin, of the Aguilar Library; R. Christie and L. K. Bell, of the Free Library of the General Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen; W. C. Kimball, of the Passaic (N. J.) Public Library; M. Taylor Pyne, of Princeton University; W. W. Appleton, Mrs. Cross and Mrs. Barlow, of the N. Y. Free Circulating Library; Melvil Dewey, of N. Y. State Library; W. I. Fletcher, of Amherst College Library; E. R. Satterlee, of the Webster Free Library; Miss Van Hovenberg, of the Washington Heights Free Library, and Mrs. Perry, of the Brooklyn Public Library.

The call to the meeting, issued previously by the secretary, enumerated 11 subjects for discussion and action, *i. e.*, endowment fund of A. L. A., legislation, heads of libraries, library organization, expenditures, hours, vacations, attendance at A. L. A. conferences, appointment of subordinates, selection of books, bequests. After calling the meeting to order, Mr. Maitland presented these subjects, and requested Mr. Dewey to explain the new library legislation recently introduced at Albany. Mr. Dewey made a statement of the changes from existing law in the new draft of the library laws for the state, to be submitted to the legislature at this session by the statutory revision commission. Numerous questions were asked by different trustees as to the bearing of different sections, but no formal votes were passed, the sentiment of the meeting being sufficiently obvious from the discussion and it being known that a committee of five, of which Dr. Billings, of the New York Public Library was chairman, had been appointed to consider the draft as soon as it was printed. (See p. 113.)

On the subject of "Library organization," Mr. Pyne spoke briefly regarding the new library building at Princeton, in planning which questions of administration, and book disposition were first settled, and the architect was then required to build around the ground plan thus evolved.

Dr. Leipziger said that this, the first meeting of library trustees held in New York City, should be the first of many meetings. He believed that the trustees of the various free libraries of the city should co-operate more closely than they had done, and should work together for the advancement of library interests in the city, and in the endeavor to bring about co-operation between the libraries and public schools.

The steps leading to the meeting were briefly stated by Dr. Billings, who explained that it was the result of the section meeting held at the Philadelphia conference in June, 1897, when it was decided that the trustees should hold a separate meeting in New York in the winter, to discuss more definite lines of work. He said that it was important that trustees should be interested in the work of the A. L. A., that they should become members of the associa-

tion, and should be prepared to discuss the subjects in which they had special concern. The desirability of co-operation among trustees of New York libraries was generally recognized, and on motion of Mr. Hershfield it was resolved that a committee of five of those present be appointed by the chair to arrange for a local organization of library trustees, to meet together at stated intervals for mutual benefit and to plan for annual meetings. The following committee was appointed: Dr. Leipziger, Mr. Hershfield, Mr. Appleton, Mrs. Cross, Mr. Maitland. On motion the meeting was adjourned.

#### CONFERENCE NOTES.

##### SPECIAL LIBRARY EXHIBIT.

AMPLE and convenient exhibition space has been arranged for at the Waldmere, headquarters hotel, and prominent book-firms, publishers and dealers in library supplies and fittings will place their goods here for the inspection of all. These trade exhibits have come to be one of the features of the conference, affording as they do an opportunity for all to examine and compare the latest library appliances, bindings, rare books, etc., etc. Such an exhibition at a resort meeting has a special value, because there is ample time in which to view it.

This year it is proposed to supplement this trade display by an exhibit from the libraries themselves. Each library, no matter how small, has some contrivance that has been worked out to save time and labor, or to serve some local need, and often these adaptations have proved valuable library aids, and have been copied by many libraries.

For instance, when books were first sent from the library to the public schools and branches, one library had difficulty in finding a "carry-all" for the books. After trying wooden trays and boxes, a canvas bag, light weight in itself, but strong and easy to carry, was adopted, and after a number of years is still in high favor in that library, and has been copied by other libraries.

Another library in a factory town, wishing to reach the operatives in the mills, had placed in a prominent position in every factory a paste-board box in the form of a hanging pocket, filled with application cards, and with this inscription on the box:

#### "FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY.

##### "Books Loaned Free.

"Take one of the applications, fill it out, have some real-estate owner sign as your guarantor, then bring it to library and books will be loaned you without any charge."

This saved a trip to the library for an application card, and another to find a guarantor, and is proving a most satisfactory way to call attention to the library.

Another library, a small one, with limited funds, contrived a temporary cover for magazines, as the numbers came from month to month, which has since been adopted in larger libraries with greater resources.

One library may have an especially good registration system, while another has worked out a convenient way of caring for pamphlets;

another still has a plan for keeping clippings and mounted pictures, while another may have made the discovery that a particular kind of paper is especially well adapted for mounting pictures, and yet another may have found a way so to repair books as to make them wear longer before sending to the bindery.

The plan is that every library shall send something to add to the special library exhibit, whether it be a full set of supplies, mounted for inspection, or one or more special appliances that have been invented to fit individual necessities, and that have proved useful.

It is hoped to make this special exhibition of library supplies most helpful, particularly to beginners and newer members of the association, and this can be done if every library will aid by sending a contribution to add to the exhibit. Now that the plan is broached, let every librarian fall promptly to thinking up suitable contributions that can be sent from his or her library, and communicate at once with the chairman of the local committee. For it is necessary that the committee should know in advance what can be depended upon for the exhibit, that plans may be worked out accordingly. All librarians, whether they hope to attend the conference or not, are urged to help in making this feature a thorough success, and in so doing they will be giving practical and welcome aid not only to those in charge of the Chautauqua arrangements, but to all who attend the conference.

MARY EMOGENE HAZELTINE, *Chairman*.

JAMES PRENDERGAST FREE LIBRARY,  
Jamestown, New York.

#### ATTENDANCE OF CLUB MEMBERS.

As one of the features of the conference is to be the discussion of all agencies of "home education," in which women's clubs play nowadays so large a part, it is especially desired that there should be a representative attendance of members of women's clubs and similar organizations. Many of the libraries in small towns and country districts owe their existence to the efforts of local literary clubs, and a knowledge and appreciation of the work that a library can do and how it is to be done, on the part of such clubs, means real service in the library cause. Librarians are urged, therefore, to bring the Chautauqua conference to the attention of the clubs and societies that their library reaches, and to interest the club authorities in the phases of club and library work that are to be discussed at the meeting. Full information will be sent on application to all interested. Already a number of presidents of literary clubs that hope to obtain a library have informed the chairman of the local committee of their hope to be present at Chautauqua, for aid and suggestion in their work, and it is desired to obtain a full attendance of such club workers.

#### RATES.

The Trunk Line Association has already granted the fare and a third, and it is believed that the other railroad associations will make the same concessions, so that the reduction will be more general than in previous years.

The hotel rates at both the Waldmere and Kent will be \$2.50 a day, for the best accommodations that the hotels afford. Lower rates will be made at good boarding-houses near the hotels, which will be announced later.

#### POST-CONFERENCE REST.

The "post-conference rest" suggestion has proved a capital one, and the plan is meeting with widespread favor; almost every letter to the local committee brings approval and expresses the hope that the writer may remain. Many have already signified their intention of staying, and have engaged rooms for the two weeks. The rates for the post-conference rest will be the same as for the conference week, \$2.50 per day.

#### State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

REGENTS' BULLETIN no. 43, just issued by the University of the State of New York, is devoted to the secretary's report for the year ending Sept. 30, 1897. The work of the Public Libraries Division is briefly summarized, and the development of libraries in the state is noted. During the year, six absolute and six provisional library charters were granted, 20 libraries were registered as maintaining a proper standard, and the number of libraries and institutes now fully incorporated in the university is 133. Of the 376 free lending libraries in the state, 339 are now under university supervision; these contain 1,038,618 v. and circulated 4,003,021 v. Visits of inspection were made to 115 libraries in 28 counties, 58 of which had not been previously reached.

The circulation of the travelling libraries conducted by the department "was larger this year than ever before." During the year, 272 general libraries were lent, as compared with 253 in the previous year; in addition, 175 extension libraries were sent to selected centres, and special libraries have been sent to high schools and academies. "The loan of lantern slides and pictures on a plan similar to that of the travelling libraries has also been well started during the year."

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

### State Library Associations.

#### LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL CALIFORNIA.

*President:* G. T. Clark, Public Library, San Francisco.

*Secretary:* F. J. Teggart, Leland Stanford Jr. University, Stanford P. O.

*Treasurer:* Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

#### COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

*Secretary:* Herbert E. Richie, Box 1589, Denver.

*Treasurer:* J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

#### CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

*Secretary:* Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

*Treasurer:* Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

THE annual meeting of the Connecticut Library Association was held at Middletown on Feb. 18. The morning session was called at 11.30 in the Russell Free Library, President F. B. Gay in the chair.

W. N. Carlton, of the Watkinson Library, Hartford, gave an interesting and scholarly paper on "The library economy of the mediæval monastery," in which he described the officers, rules, and methods of classification of monastery libraries, which have been called the sole preservers of literature from the fall of Rome to the 13th century.

In the afternoon a second session was held at the Berkeley Divinity School. First in order was the election, which resulted in retaining the same officers as last year. H. H. Eddy, of Norfolk, then spoke of the possibilities and limitations of the memorial library. An "experience meeting" followed on means to be used in securing gifts and bequests of money or books for libraries. The wide circulation of the annual report was the suggestion which gave Stratford a building and library fund. One person reported a bequest boldly asked for, and, after the man's death, it was found he had left some money for books. A family will sometimes give a sum of money, the interest from which is to be spent for books, together with a memorial book-plate.

Jonathan Trumbull, of Norwich, startled his hearers' ears by mentioning the Corbett-Fitzsimmons prize-fight in his opening sentence, narrating a vivid dream of a librarian who found his library the scene of the famous fight. Mr. Trumbull thought the "missionary librarian" might be tempted to introduce just as incongruous elements as prize-fights into his library, if he too zealously pursued the people who do not want to use the library with attractions supposed to draw them in. Having as complete a collection of books as he can obtain, made accessible by every approved means, the duty next in order is to meet the demands of

those who want to use the books, instead of going outside and urging people who do not want books to come in. As to young people's reading for recreation, Mr. Trumbull said he would prescribe plenty of tennis, golf, bicycling, and walking as a substitute for wishy-washy fiction.

Arthur W. Tyler, who has been a librarian for 25 years in libraries of the east and west, gave a talk on library work. He had his topics on cards, and gave a word or two to almost every branch of his subject, beginning with the plan of a library building and ending with questions of charging books. His epigrammatic way of putting things cannot be reproduced. Some of his points were: Library buildings should be rectangular in plan or circular (octagonal, etc.) for advantageous interior arrangement. Librarian's office on the southwest corner of the building in order to get the prevailing breeze in summer. Reading-room western exposure, and stack-room eastern, on account of longer daylight. Open shelves, classed catalog, two-book system, approved; also reserving books on request. He closed with the words: "Be Napoleonic; take some risks; take some responsibilities."

The association accepted an invitation from the New Hampshire Library Association to a meeting at Concord in June. The next meeting of the association will take place early in May at Bristol. Miss Tessa L. Kelso, of New York, invited all members present to the A. L. A. meeting at Chautauqua, in behalf of Miss Hazeltine.

ANGELINE SCOTT, *Secretary.*

#### GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

*Secretary:* C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

*Treasurer:* Miss L. A. Field, Decatur.

#### ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* J. W. Thompson, Evanston.

*Secretary:* Miss Cornelia Marvin, Scoville Institute, Oak Park.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

THE Illinois State Library Association held its annual meeting on Feb. 22, at Evanston, Ill., at the close of one of the sessions of the Interstate Library Association. It was entirely a business meeting. The following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Col. J. W. Thompson, president Public Library board, Evanston; 1st Vice-president, George B. Meleney, Library Bureau, Chicago; 2d Vice-president, Mrs. Alice G. Evans, librarian Public Library, Decatur; Secretary, Miss Cornelia Marvin, librarian Scoville Institute, Oak Park; Treasurer, Mrs. Josephine Resor, librarian Public Library, Canton.

#### INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* J. C. Leach, Public Library, Kokomo.

*Secretary:* Albert Fautrot, Rose Polytechnic Institute Library, Terre Haute.

*Treasurer:* Miss Eva M. Fitzgerald, State Library, Indianapolis.

## IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

## MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

*Treasurer:* Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

## MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Miss Alice G. Chandler, Town Library, Lancaster.

*Secretary:* H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Boston.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

## MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

*Secretary:* Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

*Treasurer:* Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

## MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Gratia Countyman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

## NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

*Secretary:* Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

*Treasurer:* Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. H. Chase, Concord.

*Secretary:* Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

*Treasurer:* Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

## NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* F. P. Hill, Public Library, Newark.

*Secretary:* Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

*Treasurer:* Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

The second joint meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club and the New Jersey Library Association will be held at Atlantic City, N. J., Friday to Monday, March 25-28, 1898. The attendance is likely to be considerably over 150, but ample accommodations will be provided.

The Pennsylvania R.R. has been selected as the official route, and the fare will be:

New York to Atlantic City and return..\$4.75  
Newark to Atlantic City and return..... 4.75  
Philadelphia to Atlantic City and return 1.75

The best train to reach Atlantic City is the one *via* the Pennsylvania Railroad leaving as follows:

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
| West 23d street.....                     | 1.20 p.m. |
| Cortlandt or Desbrosses streets..        | 1.40 "    |
| Brooklyn.....                            | 1.27 "    |
| Jersey City.....                         | 1.54 "    |
| Newark.....                              | 2.07 "    |
| Philadelphia, foot of Market street..... | 4.00 "    |
| Camden.....                              | 4.08 "    |

Excursion tickets good to return within 10 days.

Tickets from New York are good *via* Camden or Philadelphia with privilege of stopping over in Philadelphia within limit.

From Philadelphia, other trains leave: Market street wharf 8.50 a.m.; 2 p.m.; 5 p.m.

The Grand Atlantic Hotel will again serve as headquarters.

## HOTEL RATES.

|                       |               |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| One day.....          | \$2.50        |
| Friday to Monday..... | per day, 2.25 |

The Atlantic City Reception Committee, of which Mayor Stoy is president, will receive the association Friday evening. This reception will be followed by a short business session. Two sessions will be held on Saturday, one at 10.30 a.m., and the other at 8.30 p.m.

The program is announced as follows:

## FIRST SESSION.

*Friday, March 25, 8.30 p.m.*

1. Address of welcome. Hon. F. P. Stoy, Mayor of Atlantic City.
2. Response. James G. Barnwell, President Pennsylvania Library Club.
3. Life at the ocean level. John F. Hall, Atlantic City.
4. Some reminiscences of the German side of Pennsylvania history. Joseph G. Rosengarten, Philadelphia.

## SECOND SESSION.

*Saturday, March 26, 10.30 a.m.*

1. The library and the schools. A. J. Demarest, Hoboken.
2. The use of periodicals in reference-work. Frederick W. Faxon, Boston.
3. Towns and boroughs in New Jersey without public libraries. William R. Weeks, Newark.
4. Travelling libraries in New Jersey. Mrs. E. B. Horton, Cranford.

## THIRD SESSION.

*Saturday, March 26, 8.30 p.m.*

1. Fiction in public libraries. John C. Dana, Public Library, Springfield, Mass.
2. Notes on readers. Miss Helen E. Haines, LIBRARY JOURNAL.
3. An experience in reading. Charles A. Cutter, Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.



4. Modern Spanish novelists. Miss Mary W. Plummer, Pratt Institute Free Library, Brooklyn, N. Y.
5. Holland: some reminiscences of travel. George W. Cole.

Members of other library clubs and friends in adjacent states are cordially invited to be present at all or part of this library conference and joint outing. Please notify the secretaries of intention to be present.

BEATRICE WINNER, *Secretary New Jersey Library Association, Free Public Library, Newark, N. J.*

MARY P. FARR, *Secretary Pennsylvania Library Club, Girls' Normal School, Phila., Pa.*

#### NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

*Secretary:* W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

*Treasurer:* J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

THE annual meeting of the New York Library Association and of the New York Library Club was held on Thursday, Feb. 17, at the new building of the Young Men's Christian Association, 318 West 57th street, New York City, the lecture-hall, reception-room, and cloak-rooms of which were kindly given over by the trustees to the librarians and their friends attending.

A little after 10 a.m. the meeting was called to order by Mr. A. L. Peck, president of the state association, who briefly alluded to the recent advance in library work throughout the state, a progress of which librarians should feel proud. At the close of his address, Mr. Peck called upon Mr. W. R. Eastman, state inspector of libraries, for an account of the "Free lending libraries of New York City."

Mr. Eastman said in part: The free lending libraries which reported from New York City in 1897 were 26 in number, including branches. There were probably as many more connected with mission enterprises or in some way supported by private gifts that did not report. The Harlem library, after 50 years' trial of the subscription plan, became free last September and began to circulate books at the rate of 10,000 a month, but its record is not included in the period covered. The 26 reporting libraries contained 400,000 books. They had added 66,000 within the year, and reported a circulation of over 2,000,000, giving the large proportion of circulation of 502 per cent. as compared with the books. In New York the previous year the percentage was 453, the decided advance showing not only a large increase of readers consequent on the opening of new libraries, but also a growing and unsatisfied hunger for books. The speaker said there were 50 libraries in the state whose percentage of circulation was over 500; 19 of the 50 were in New York; of 11 exceptional libraries whose percentage was more than 1000, seven were in New York City. Mr. Eastman then gave statistics based on the returns of the work of the various libraries, the sum and total of which

was progress. Such facts, he said, are clear indication of the value and growing importance of the work. At the same time they suggest a still more important question, Who is responsible for the management and support of these libraries? Of the 26 free libraries reporting, and of an unknown number not reporting, not one is owned or controlled by the city. The lending libraries free to the public are without exception the fruits of private enterprise or endowment. Yet the city has been liberal in extending aid to those private libraries maintained for the welfare and free use of the public. Two years ago the city paid them \$60,000; this year, according to the allowance of the last board of estimate, it will pay \$166,000. The payment is based on the approved circulation of the preceding year, and will be shared by 21 of the 26 free libraries. Mr. Eastman drew attention to the Free Circulating Library for the Blind with its 500 books and 20 to 30 readers.

Mr. Frank P. Hill, of the Newark Free Public Library, followed with an exhibition and brief explanation of the plans of the proposed building for the Newark library, which were reproduced with a full description in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for February.

The next subject considered was "Development of reference work in circulating libraries." Mr. A. E. Bostwick, New York Free Circulating Library, gave a short dissertation on reference work in connection with the general public, dividing libraries by rough popular classification into reference libraries and circulating or lending libraries, according as the users are or are not permitted to take their books out of the library building. In purely circulating libraries reference work must be minor and incidental, and its scope and character become fair subjects for discussion. Mr. Bostwick endeavored to show what is meant by "reference books" and what really constitutes "reference work." He spoke of the difficulty in obtaining trustworthy statistics of reference use, but deprecated the common practice of keeping no record of this use. The question to be considered is, practically, What works properly find place in the reference department of a circulating library? The manner in which the librarian of the small branch or circulating library should decide this question should be, the speaker thought, somewhat as follows:

1. Find out what works should go on the reference shelves independently of all side issues.
2. Find which of these are in demand for home use.
3. Duplicate as many of these as possible.
4. Divide all that cannot be duplicated between the reference and circulating departments.

In concluding, he said: "Taking equal rank with the problems already mentioned is the problem of the custodian. Any reference department loses half its value if it is not in charge of a person competent to aid those who wish to use it."

Miss M. E. Hazeltine, of the James Prendergast Free Library, gave a delightful talk on the methods of reference work for children, in which the friendly co-operation of the teachers in all schools was a prime essential. She described



the various ways in which children might be aided in their school work, and spoke of the importance of teaching them to help themselves in hunting up information, rather than making everything too easy, and consequently superficial. A children's department was a great help, if not a necessity, in systematic work with children, and she thought there was no branch of library work where the returns were so prompt and so great in proportion to the efforts put forth.

The subject seemed one of general interest, and on motion of Mr. Elmendorf the time allotted to its consideration was extended. The work of the children's department at Buffalo was touched upon by Miss Fernald and Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf, and experiences with young readers were given from the Pratt Institute Free Library, the New York Free Circulating Libraries, and elsewhere. The question of how to obtain the aid of the teachers seemed the crucial one, especially in the larger cities, and awakened considerable discussion.

Mr. W. E. Foster, of the Providence Public Library, was unable to be present, and his paper on "Methods of reference work with artisans" was read by title.

The continuation of the program was suspended until the afternoon session, and the miscellaneous business to come before the meeting was taken up. Mr. Dewey spoke of the pending library legislation, forming part of the new "education" bill to be introduced into the assembly, and recommended that resolutions expressing the sentiments of librarians regarding it should be drafted and a committee on legislation appointed to act in the matter. A committee on nominations for the state association officers was appointed, and after some minor business the morning session was adjourned.

The meeting was resumed at 2.30 p.m., with Mr. Bostwick, president of the New York Library Club, in the chair. The committee on nominations reported the names of the previous officers for re-election, and one ballot was cast for each, confirming their re-election. The committee on legislation was named as: Dr. J. S. Billings, W. C. Morey of Rochester, J. E. Brandegee of Utica, A. L. Peck, and W. R. Eastman. A committee was also appointed to confer with other state associations in regard to the preparation of a list of the best books of 1898 for libraries—the members being W. R. Eastman, Miss M. S. Wheeler, and Miss Helen E. Haines. The subject of the Chautauqua conference was presented by Mr. Dewey and Miss Hazeltine, who described the many plans for pleasure and profit that it is hoped may make this a red-letter conference, and extended a cordial invitation to each and all present.

The morning's program was continued by the consideration of the subject, "Some recent experiments on access to shelves in free circulating libraries." Mr. W. K. Stetson spoke briefly of the results of the system, as observed at the New Haven Public Library, where its advantages had been found to largely outweigh its disadvantages.

Miss Adeline E. Brown, of the Yorkville branch of the New York Free Circulating Library, said that although when in June last the system was introduced there it was considered a serious experiment, they were emphatic in claiming it a success. By allowing free access to shelves more books were lost and considerable work was involved in preserving the arrangement of the books. At first all the books were placed on the shelves in one arrangement, juvenile literature being marked by a star, but subsequently they were given a place for themselves. There was indisputable evidence that what young readers needed in consulting a library was personal aid from some interested and competent attendant, who should act more as a guide, indicating the best thing to be seen, yet leaving the student to determine the road to be traversed.

Miss Cragin, of the Riverside branch of the same library, followed, endorsing the system of free access to books. Readers are apt to select better books, and both time and labor are served. Actual statistics as to loss could not be given, as no inventory had been taken, but there was no knowledge of any dishonest dealing on the part of their readers.

Mr. H. L. Elmendorf, of the Buffalo Public Library, read a careful and interesting paper on the experiment made in Buffalo of placing a selected library on open shelves, with free access to all. He said that the construction of the library building forbade throwing the whole library open, and that, in any case, it seemed unwise to open the collection of 60 years to the general reader. A special room was devoted to the free shelves, upon which 6700 books were placed at the opening of the library, with 1000 duplicates held in reserve. The reserves were all needed in the course of a week. The instant demand for books far exceeded the supply, and it became necessary to make requisitions on the rest of the library for books for temporary use. The books regularly in the open-shelf room are extra volumes, duplicates of those in the main library, so that the efficiency of the latter is not impaired, but supplemented by the new department. One case in the room is devoted to books in German, and this has proved a very popular feature of the collection.

The number of books originally selected has been added to by purchase until on Jan. 1 the collection numbered 11,217 volumes. All classes of literature, from philosophy to fiction, are represented. From this department, from its opening on Sept. 2, 1897 to Jan. 1, 1898, there were drawn for home use 105,781 books, while from the delivery-counter the figures were 93,298, or 47 per cent. from the counter and 53 per cent. from the open shelves. Mr. Elmendorf believed that the losses of books under the system were small, and said that the department had been a great saving in expense by reducing the number of assistants necessary, and had largely increased the popularity of the library.

"Mudie's select library," the renown of which has been "carried wherever the English tongue is spoken," was described in an inter-

esting historical paper by Mr. T. W. Idle, who spoke from long personal acquaintance with the work.

The consideration of the books of 1897 was introduced by Mr. Eastman, who read the names of the 50 books receiving the largest number of votes throughout the state, from the classed lists prepared and issued by the state library. These lists, in which 500 books were listed, were distributed among the audience, and it was announced that further votes would be received until March 1, and that the results would be announced as soon after that date as possible.

But two classes of the year's books were presented in detail, these being fiction, by Miss Helen E. Haines, and juveniles, by Miss Caroline M. Hewins.

Miss Haines had confined her mention of separate books to books that it seemed might be less generally known than others and that at the same time possessed special merit. She stated that the fiction statistics of 1897 showed but 713 new novels as against 1014 in 1896—a fact that, from a library point of view, would probably be regarded as wholly satisfactory; of these, 110 were included in the tentative list.

Seven novels were named, as, in the opinion of the speaker, representing the best fiction of the year. These were: "On the face of the waters," by Mrs. F. A. Steel; "The gadfly," by E. Voynich; "The choir invisible," by James Lane Allen; "Hugh Wynne," by S. Weir Mitchell; "The school for saints," by John Oliver Hobbes; "Captains courageous," by Rudyard Kipling, and "St. Ives," by Stevenson. Each of these was commented on, and then a few of the books on the list that seemed to deserve special attention were noted. Those named were: "Prisoners of conscience," by Mrs. A. E. Barr; "Jimmy and others," by Margaret Sutton Briscoe; "The Christian," of which it was said, "no one can deny that the story is absorbing; it is theatrical, often spectacular, its emotions are hysterics, its facts generally exaggerations; but it has energy, a sure self-confidence, and much that strikes strongly at surface emotions"; "Diana Victrix," by Florence Converse; Crawford's "Corleone," Davis's "Soldiers of fortune," noted as "written for the 'matinée girl'"; "The Martian"; "The Kentuckians," and "Hell fer Sartain," by John Fox; "The missionary sheriff," by Octave Thanet; "The descendant," by Ellen Glasgow; "Stories of Naples and the Camorra," by Charles Grant; Howells's "Landlord of Lion's Head," "which seems almost equal to 'Silas Lapham,' and not below the best of his novels, save in its lack of humor"; "At the cross-roads," by F. F. Monrézor; "The story of Ab," by Stanley Waterloo, "which has not had half the attention it deserves"; and H. J. Wells's two books, "Thirty strange stories" and "The invisible man," "both of which are capital, but need not be recommended to people with 'nerves.'" All of them were characterized more or less fully, and the speaker closed by naming three books not included in

the list, but which should, she thought, be represented in a record of the best fiction of the year. These were "Diomed, the story of a dog," by John Sargent Wise, "the autobiography of a setter dog from puppyhood to old age, full of the spirit of outdoor life and describing a sportsman's joys with such keen delight that it can hardly fail to charm"; William Morris's "Water of the Wondrous Isles"; and Henry James's last novel, "What Maisie knew," which was regarded as "an astonishing example of sheer literary art. Of course the question is whether people will read it for its literary art or its lack of morals. It seems to me, however, that people who care only for the latter would be so wearied by the former that they would soon give up the task."

Miss Caroline M. Hewins followed with a review of the children's books recorded in the list, naming as the six books of the year that she would choose as the best to buy for a child: Blanchan's "Bird life," Garrison's "Parables for school and home," Kipling's "Captains courageous," Lang's "Pink fairy book," Lucas's "Book of verses for children," and Boutet de Monvel's "Joan of Arc."

There was almost no discussion of the book lists, save that in regard to the fiction list Mr. C. A. Nelson spoke in warm praise of Paul L. Ford's "Story of an untold love," and Mr. Bostwick added a few words of admiration and appreciation regarding Wells's two books.

"The children's library league" of the Prendergast Library, of Jamestown, N. Y., was the last feature on the program, and this was described by Miss Hazeltine in an informal and most engaging manner. Since its inception the league has been a success, and now the library is sometimes fairly swamped by its throngs of league members—"but that is all the better." The league is based upon that organized in the Cleveland Public Library, and its effect on the care of books is distinctly observable, though this, of course, is one of its least important services.

The meeting, at which about 160 librarians and friends were present, was concluded at 5.30, allowing none too much time for preparation for the reception from 7 till 8 o'clock at the Sturtevant House, and the annual dinner which followed. The social hour spent in comparing notes and talking over the day's work proved an extremely pleasant feature of the occasion. A small orchestra gave selections during the reception and the dinner, which was held in the large dining-hall of the Sturtevant House, and after which speeches were made by Mr. Bostwick, Mr. George Haven Putnam, Mr. Rossiter Johnson, Mr. A. Van Name of Yale University Library, Mr. Tillinghast of Harvard, and Mr. Fletcher of Amherst. Miss Blenner displayed a fine and highly cultivated voice in two selections, and Miss Cox, violin, and the Misses Holt, piano, gave added pleasure in their renderings of several pieces.

\* Miss Hewins's paper will appear in full in the School number of the JOURNAL.

## OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Frank Conover, Public Library, Dayton.

*Secretary:* Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

*Treasurer:* Martin Hensel, Public School Library, Columbus.

## PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* James G. Barnwell, Library Company of Philadelphia.

*Secretary:* Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

*Treasurer:* Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

THE February meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held, by permission of the trustees of the Drexel Institute, in one of the large rooms of the institute. It was capitally attended, and was one of the successful evenings of the season, 112 members being present. In the absence of Mr. Carr, the president, Vice-president John Thomson took the chair, and after the minutes had been duly read and approved, called for nominations for the offices of president, vice-presidents, secretary and treasurer to act for the ensuing year. Mr. Montgomery proposed Mr. James G. Barnwell, of the Library Company of Philadelphia, for president, and his election was carried by acclamation. The other officers elected were Miss Hannah P. James, of the Osterhout Library, and Mr. Robert P. Bliss, of the Bucknell Library, as vice-presidents; Miss Mary P. Farr, of the Philadelphia Normal School, secretary, and Miss Jean E. Graffen, of the Free Library of Philadelphia, treasurer.

Mr. Barnwell then took the chair and introduced to the meeting Dr. Morris Jastrow, Jr., who delivered an address upon "Oriental libraries." He spoke at length upon the ancient library at Alexandria and its contents, so far as they were known, and expressed the belief that many of the findings in past and present times in Egypt were papyri and other treasures, which had originally been component parts of the library of Alexandria. Dr. Jastrow then spoke of the early literature of Babylonia, and in the course of the evening described points which distinguished that literature from the Accadian. He read extracts from some of the ancient writings, showing very remarkable resemblances between them and the ancient Hebrew scriptures, and how almost the exact words of portions of the Book of Job and the Decalogue were to be found in sentences of these most ancient writings. The speaker attributed much of this literature to as early a date as 3800 B.C. Dr. Jastrow entered into many particulars of the writings collected in these oriental libraries, explaining how many of them were accounts of their heroes, records of their lawsuits and books of omens, and how in one series preserved in the British Museum the variations in the tenure of some property could be traced through a period of over 200 years. At the conclusion of the address several of the members present asked

Dr. Jastrow questions which led to an interesting discussion.

The chairman called for a vote of thanks to Dr. Jastrow, which was enthusiastically extended.

Mr. Barnwell then nominated as his executive committee for the coming year, T. L. Montgomery, chairman, Henry J. Carr, Alfred Rigling, Miss M. Z. Cruice, John Thomson, Mrs. M. D. Fell, John Edmands, Ernest Spofford, Miss Alice B. Kroeger.

The members spent some time after the adjournment in examining a very curious specimen of the old Assyrian brick writing and also the library of the Drexel Institute.

The next meeting of the club will be a joint meeting of the New Jersey Library Association and the Pennsylvania Library Club, to be held at Atlantic City, March 25-26. Particulars regarding it are given under New Jersey Library Association. (See p. 111.)

## WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* W. M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

*Secretary-Treasurer:* Miss Elizabeth Wales, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock.

THE Library Club of Western Pennsylvania held its second meeting for 1897-98 on Jan. 13, in the lecture-room of the Allegheny Carnegie Library. As there was but little business to transact, the program was taken up immediately after the reading of the minutes for November.

The subject for the day was reference-work in all its phases. Miss E. M. Willard read a paper dealing with the value of the works of reference in daily use at the Pittsburg Library. The discussion was opened by Miss E. B. Wales and Mrs. Julia F. Blair, who set forth the practical difficulties to be met in trying to aid the readers; the subject was then taken up by the club in general discussion, and during the next half hour the reference department was exploited in its relation to every art, science, and industry (and some kinds of foolishness). About 30 members were present and all took a lively interest in the discussion.

After the meeting a short time was spent by some of the party in examining the interesting collection of bound magazines belonging to the library. ELIZABETH B. WALES, *Secretary*.

## VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

*Secretary:* Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

*Treasurer:* E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

## WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison.

*Secretary:* Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.

*Treasurer:* Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

## NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

*President:* Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

A MEETING of the North Wisconsin Travelling Library Association was held in Ashland on Friday and Saturday, February 11 and 12. The meeting was held under the joint auspices of the Wisconsin Free Library Commission and of the association, and the session of Friday afternoon was devoted to "Travelling libraries." There were addresses by Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Hon. G. F. Merrill, Rev. S. E. Lathrop, and Mr. Burt Williams, which covered, in most interesting fashion, the constantly increasing work being done by the association in the adjacent districts. In the evening a pleasant social gathering was held at Mrs. Vaughn's residence, which was largely attended and much enjoyed. The Saturday morning session was devoted to "Public libraries," and among the speakers were Miss L. E. Stearns, who told of "The child and his book," and Prof. B. B. Jackson, city superintendent of schools, whose paper on "Literature and art in school reading" brought out considerable discussion. Miss Green, secretary, then gave an interesting report of the work of the association. There are now 16 different travelling libraries under the control of the association, and six more are ready to be sent out; 18 different towns have had the privilege of one of these libraries. The association covers Ashland, Bayfield, Douglass, Sawyer, Chippewa, Taylor, Price and Iron counties.

Officers for the ensuing year were elected as follows: *President*, Mrs. E. E. Vaughn; *Secretary and treasurer*, Miss Green; *Vice-presidents*, Dr. Ellis, Prof. Rood, Prof. McNeil, Mr. Murphy; *Field superintendent*, Rev. Stanley Lathrop.

## Library Clubs.

## CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* Anderson H. Hopkins, John Crerar Library.

*Secretary:* C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

*Treasurer:* Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison street.

## CHICAGO PUBLIC LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.

THE Round Table met on the evening of Feb. 10, and listened to this program: "Books of the past month," by Miss May Bostetter; "Women of the Colonial and Revolutionary periods," by Miss Jessie Booth; reading: "The dandy 5th," by A. W. Taylor; "American literature of the Revolutionary period," by Albert de Roode. A novelty was the appearance of the initial number of the *Round Table Chronicle*, a manuscript paper devoted to the interests of the library. Our new building is so large that people of one department find it difficult to keep posted on the work of other departments. *The Chronicle* announced among other things that a

new author and title fiction catalog is in press, to be ready March 1. It will contain 320 large pages, is to be printed on white paper and bound in dark green paper covers, and will be sold for 10 cents. The library now has 48 delivery stations scattered throughout the city, and seven more are to be opened soon.

C. R. PERRY, *Secretary*.

## MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.

"A little work, a little play  
To keep us going—and so, good-day!"

## NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

*President:* A. E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

*Secretary:* T. W. Idle, Columbia University Library.

*Treasurer:* Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

For report of joint meeting with N. Y. Library Association, see p. 112.

## LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

*President:* Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

*Secretary and Treasurer:* F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

*Meetings:* Second Wednesday evening of each month.

THE 29th regular meeting of the Library Association of Washington City was held at the Columbian University on Feb. 9, 1898. President H. Carrington Bolton occupied the chair, and about 50 members and visitors were in attendance.

The announcement was made of the election to membership of the following persons: Frederick E. Woodward, John T. Loomis, Miss M. E. Griffin, and Miss Carrie Cornell. An amendment to the constitution, providing for a treasurer for the association was offered. The sum of \$10 was appropriated for the purchase of "Poole's index, 1892-96," said volume to be deposited in the Free Public Library.

After the routine business was disposed of, Dr. Stephen B. Weeks, of the U. S. Bureau of Education, read an able and exceedingly interesting paper, entitled "The development of libraries in the southern states." Dr. Weeks divided his paper into two parts. The first reviewed southern libraries historically, and the second part dealt with some of the present problems of library management. He stated that the library history of the southern states began with the first settlement at Jamestown. There was a considerable development in the 17th century in Virginia, and the same kind of development on a smaller scale in North Carolina, where the Moseley Library commanded attention as early as 1749, and that founded by Governor Eden, who died in 1722, has come down to our own day. The public library movement seems to have started in the south, and was due, beyond question, to the work of Dr. Thomas Bray, who sent libraries of more or less value to all of these colonies except Georgia. His work began about 1696 and



was continued by the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel at intervals till the Revolution. The largest of his libraries was that sent to Annapolis, Md., of which a part has survived to the present time. His libraries were intended for circulation, and there is evidence from the laws that this was actually the case.

Perhaps the first attempt to found a public library by a private citizen was that made in North Carolina by Edward Moseley in 1723. This attempt was not successful, and the Charleston Library Society, founded in 1748, was the first attempt that met with success. This library was noted for the variety and value of its collection, and continued to grow until the Civil War, when its reverses began. Since then there has been a struggle for life; it is now in debt, and although it has more than 45,000 volumes, and is in a city of 60,000 souls, is in danger of coming under the hammer of the auctioneer. The Revolution had a retarding effect on libraries, just as the Civil War did, but not to the same extent. There were as many as five public libraries in North Carolina alone before the close of the 18th century. In 1850 there were in the southern states 696 libraries with some 636,000 volumes; in 1860 there were 5299 libraries, including the private ones, with 2,897,515 volumes. In 1859 Rhees reports 25 libraries with 10,000 volumes and over, and 17 others with 5000 and over. The largest and most valuable of all was that of the University of South Carolina, on which, in the 17 years between 1836 and 1853, more than \$62,000 was spent. The Civil War, however, came like an untimely frost on the library development and allowed no further expansion. Since the war many libraries have been founded in the south. These have come from a variety of sources; some have been fostered by the state; others belong to colleges with wealthy patrons, like Tulane, Vanderbilt and Johns Hopkins; others are the gifts of individuals, like the Howard Memorial of New Orleans, the Cossitt of Memphis, the Howard of Nashville, the Lawson McGhee of Knoxville, and the Enoch Pratt of Baltimore. Colleges are awaking to the importance of the library as an aid to education. They are ceasing to be a part of the literary societies of the students as they have been in the past, and are becoming more and more a part of the working apparatus of the college itself. The state libraries are still suffering from political incompetence, and the society libraries from the lack of funds and of progressive management. Laws regulating and protecting libraries are also needed. The Tennessee law passed in 1897 allows a special tax of 1 per cent. to be levied in towns of 20,000 population for the benefit of libraries, and has already borne fruit in Nashville and Memphis. The North Carolina law, also passed in 1897, allows towns of 1000 or over to devote 2 per cent. of their taxes to a library. This has been done in Durham, which has erected a library building and opened the library for use. Other towns will, no doubt, follow this good example.

This paper was listened to with the attention which it deserved, and all who are students of

library matters will be glad when it is published in full, as it probably will be by the Bureau of Education, as we are sadly deficient in the library history of the section of our country of which Dr. Weeks spoke. Considerable discussion followed the reading of the paper, and facts of interest were mentioned by Messrs. Bolton, Boyden and Cole.

Dr. Bolton then exhibited and gave a brief résumé of the contents of a "Memorial of the opening of the new library in the city of Aachen (Aix la Chapelle)," by Emil Fromm, published in the 19th volume of the *Journal of the Historical Society of Aachen (Zeitschrift der Aachener Geschichtsvereins)* in 1897. This was, in fact, a summary of the history of the Aachen library which, although existing in part in the 17th century, dates practically from 1830, when City Councillor Dautzenberg bequeathed his library to the city, and it was joined to that in the Rathhaus. However, a catalog (in ms.) exists from about 1740.

F. H. PARSONS, Secretary.

## Library Schools and Training Classes.

### NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

#### LIBRARY SCHOOL REGISTER.

THE University of the State of New York has just issued, under imprint date 1897, "State Library bulletin, Library School, no. 2," devoted to the "Library School register, 1887-96." This will be of general interest, not only to all students of the Library School, but as a record of a decade of professional librarianship. The record is arranged chronologically by classes, giving details of previous college work, if any, and library positions held since graduation from Albany; it is followed by summaries of the facts regarding geographical distribution of students, kinds of positions held, credentials received, etc., and by lists of the graduation bibliographies and theses submitted by students; an index is a useful aid. There are 217 matriculated students listed, of whom 70 were from New York, 42 from Massachusetts, and 14 from Illinois; 537 positions have been filled by students. The number of members of each class holding college degrees has steadily increased from six in the first (1888) class of 22 members to 11 in the 11th (1898) class of 18 members.

#### SUMMER SESSION.

THE second summer session of the New York State Library School will begin Monday, May 30, and will continue five weeks, closing Friday, July 1, 1898, to allow all to attend the A. L. A. meeting at Chautauqua. By this plan the summer school students will see the state library and all departments of the university in full operation instead of in vacation time, and will make the personal acquaintance of the seniors and juniors of the regular classes, whose work ends only one week earlier. The completion of new rooms makes it possible to have both schools in session at once, and secures many advantages impossible for a July and August session.

## MEMORIAL COLLECTIONS.

MR. ANDERSON'S symposium on "Memorial collections in libraries," referred to in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* (January, 1898, p. 30), has been loaned to us, and by permission of the 21 contributors will be copied for the Library School museum. It is a valuable document, and reveals what seems to us a strong and commendable policy on the part of several important libraries. Would it not be worth while for the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* to present one of its famous old-time symposiums on this subject? A knowledge of the experience of the older and established libraries might be of service to the newer and smaller libraries and result in the adoption throughout the libraries of the country of a general policy in relation to memorial gifts that shall recognize, as a determining factor, the interests of the library as an educational institution.

## USE OF PERIODICALS.

*Literature* and the *Book Buyer* have been added to the list of critical reviews (given in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, May, 1897, p. 268) used by the school in selecting current literature.

Mrs. Elmendorf's description of the method used by the Buffalo Library for increasing the efficiency of the library staff, to be found in *Public Libraries* (February, 1898, p. 45), leads me to speak of a similar plan which has been carried out successfully in the New York State Library for several years. The Buffalo Library circulates among the staff extra copies of professional and literary periodicals. The New York State Library reserves for 24 hours on special shelves for inspection by the staff and Library School students each number of the large body of periodical literature received by the library (about 1500). By spending a few minutes daily in examining the contents of the periodical inspection shelves any member of the staff or school may gain a useful knowledge of a wide range of periodicals and discover articles and items in lines of personal and professional investigation. The two plans would supplement each other, and are of value as methods of developing to the highest efficiency an entire library staff.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

## UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS LIBRARY SCHOOL.

THE university has issued an interesting "Circular of information" regarding the library school, established in 1897 under the direction of Miss Katharine L. Sharp. A four years' course of study is offered, leading to the degree of Bachelor of Library Science, and "it is the first institution of learning to give library economy a place among its regular courses. The director of the library school holds a full professorship, and members of the library staff hold positions of relative standing." The lowest requirement for entering the class is a two-years' course in general university studies, and it is preferred that students should have completed a four-years' college course before applying for admission. A record of the positions filled by students of the school, when conducted by Armour Institute of Chicago, is also given.

## Reviews.

GROWOLL, ADOLF. American book clubs: their beginnings and history, and a bibliography of their publications. New York, Dodd, Mead & Co., 1897. 14+423 p. sm. O.

Anyone who has experienced the difficulty of finding information about the publications of the various American book clubs and societies will welcome the guidance of this timely volume. The term "book club," as here used, is defined to be "an association of two or more persons whose exclusive purpose it is to publish either original matter or reprints of scarce or curious books." Mr. Growoll's plan is to sketch briefly the history of each club, and to describe fully all of its publications. The book-titles are set forth with unusual accuracy, the number of copies printed of each volume being also noted.

The earliest literary societies formed in this country, from 1726 to about 1825, were the Junto of Philadelphia, the Hartford Wits, the Drone Club of New York, the Anthology Club of Cambridge, the Literary Confederacy of New York, and the Delphians of Baltimore, whose contributions appeared in the periodical press of their day. A list of some American magazines, from 1741 to 1827, is given in the first chapter.

The first real book club in America was the Seventy-Six Society, organized at Philadelphia in 1854, which in the three years of its existence published four volumes relating to the Revolution. Next in order of time was the association known as "The Club," in New York, which issued two volumes of historical value in 1857-58. Its successor, the well-known Bradford Club, printed seven volumes from 1859 to 1867. Other New York book clubs of the same period were the Holland Society in 1859, with one publication; the Zenger Club in 1861, with one; the Club of Odd Sticks in 1864, with one; the U. Q. Club in 1865, with two; the Hamilton Club in 1865-66, with four; the Rivington Club in 1865-66, with three; the Washington Club in 1865-68, with three; and the Agathynian Club in 1866-68, with two volumes.

Of the older book clubs outside of New York, the most important one here noticed is the Prince Society of Boston, which issued to its members, between 1858 and 1897, 23 volumes relating to the early exploration and history of North America. The Narragansett Club of Providence was founded in 1865, and in the nine years of its existence published six volumes by or relating to Roger Williams. In 1865 the Faust Club and the Furman Club, both of Brooklyn, each put forth its first and only volume.

The Historical Printing Club of Brooklyn was formed in 1876 by Gordon L. Ford and his sons, Worthington C. Ford and Paul Leicester Ford. For excellent work, and for the number of books published, this club "easily takes a place in the front rank of modern book clubs." The historical publications are issues of unprinted data and reprints of rare printed matter

relating to the early political or military history of the United States. The list of its volumes here given comprises 70 titles and fills 17 pages.

The year 1884 marked a revival of interest in book clubs and club publications, by the organization of the Grolier Club in New York, the Filson Club in Louisville, and the Gorges Society in Portland. The Dunlop Society of New York and the Pegasus Club of Philadelphia followed in 1885, and the Boston Club of Odd Volumes in 1886. In 1892 the Rowfant Club of Cleveland was founded; in 1893 the Philobiblon Club of Philadelphia and the Duodecimos; in 1895 the Caxton Club of Chicago, the Colonial Society of Pennsylvania, the Parkman Club of Milwaukee, the Society of Iconophiles of New York, and the Cadmus Club of Galesburg, Ill. The youngest member of the family is the Dibdin Club of New York, started in 1897.

The book is a most useful addition to the working tools of the librarian, and to the reference shelves of the bibliographer. The descriptions of publications are in nearly every instance made from personal inspection, and in fulness of detail are as complete as could be desired.

W. E.

### Library Economy and History.

#### GENERAL.

*The Vermonter* (C: S. Forbes, St. Albans, Vt.) for February is a "Public library number," entirely devoted to articles on library topics and illustrated with many views of libraries. The work of the Vermont State Library Commission is described by W. S. Landon, president of the commission, and Miss Titcomb, of the Rutland Free Library, has a good short article on "The village library."

#### LOCAL.

*Baltimore, Md.* Enoch Pratt F. L. (12th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '97.) Added 7886; total 188,728, of which 114,451 are in the central library. Issued, home use 653,314 (fict. and juv. 73 + %); lib. use 74,431. Of these, 396,787 were issued from the six branch libraries. Lost and paid for 77. New registration 7371; total cards in force 34,413; 1123 "students' cards" have been issued. Expenses \$49,264.35, of which \$23,666.19 was for salaries and \$12,585.36 for purchase of books.

"The circulation of books from all the libraries is over 74,000 more than in 1896, in which year it was larger than in any previous one. The circulation of periodicals in the reading-rooms also increased by about 70,000, which is a gain of over 40% of the circulation in the previous year. The branches collectively give out more books than the central library, and have fully as large a use of magazines in their reading-room as that in the reading-room of the central library. The annual stock-taking showed few books missing; the risk of loss was 1 to every 20,792 of circulation. Since the library was opened in 1886 we have lost 187 books."

*Brooklyn (N. Y.) P. L.* A bill has been introduced into the assembly authorizing the transfer to the Brooklyn Public Library of the Eastern District school library, long conducted under the auspices of the school board in Williamsburgh, or the Eastern District. It is desired that this collection shall be maintained as a branch of the Public Library.

A report of the library's progress from its establishment on Dec. 13, 1897, to Feb. 8 was presented by Mrs. Craigie, the director, at a meeting of the board of directors on Feb. 18. It was stated that 1148 borrowers were registered, the average attendance had been 9237, and the circulation 4607, of which 4233 v. were fiction.

*Cambridge (Mass.) P. L.* (40th rpt. — year ending Nov. 30, '97.) Added 4357; total 53,261. Issued 162,764 (fict. and juv. 693%). Present cardholders 16,862.

The chief event of the year was the establishment of the first branch library in East Cambridge, through which 5788 v. were issued. The circulation shows the large increase of 29,232.

*Chicago, John Crerar L.* The third report of the library, presented early in January, shows that since April, when the library was opened to the public, the total number of visitors has been 18,584, and the use of the library has exceeded 30,000 v. The accessions were 18,257, and the total is 29,141. The library receives 1188 periodicals and serials, of which 1045 are subscribed for at a yearly cost of \$4099.57.

*Chicago (Ill.) P. L.* (25th rpt. — year ending May 31, '97.) The report is received in pamphlet form so long after the close of the year that it covers little that is new. At the time of its presentation the library was still occupying the old building, and owing to limited space, only such books were purchased during the year as seemed indispensable. The additions were 8171, the total v. being 220,736. The home use of books was 1,215,997 (fict. 40.80%; juv. 23.05%), of which over half (631,542) were issued through the 31 delivery stations; the total use of books and periodicals was 2,661,490, the ref. statistics being 375,729. New registration 28,207; there are 54,208 cards in use.

*The Inland Architect Supplement* for Jan., 1898 (v. 30, no. 6), is devoted to the Chicago Public Library, and is beautiful and interesting, artistically, architecturally, and from the library point of view. It is a tall quarto pamphlet of 54 pages, giving a detailed and careful description of the building, and lavishly illustrated with fine views of interior, exterior, and architectural and decorative details. The architects, library authorities, and the management of the *Inland Architect* are alike to be congratulated on this admirable piece of work.

*Cincinnati, O. Historical and Philosophical Soc. of Ohio.* (Libn's rpt. — year ending Dec. 6, '97.) Added 662 v., 3096 pm.; total 14,395 v., 58,272 pm. Receipts \$2551.26; expenses \$2510.12.

The most important accessions of the year are described.

*Cleveland, O. Case L.* An interesting valentine exhibit was held at the library during the week of Feb. 7-12; it consisted of a collection of valentines owned by Frank H. Baer, extending from the time the missives first came into use to the middle of the present century. Many of the valentines shown were over 100 years old, and none were less than 40 years old. Among them was one supposed to be the first known valentine; it bears the date of 1790 and is addressed to Sarah Brett; it is a crude affair, made from a single large sheet of paper, folded together like an envelope; all over its edges are inscribed love passages, while here and there are pasted pairs of hearts pierced with arrows made of red tissue-paper. The sender of this valentine despatched an exact copy of it to another of his lady-loves, and the latter copy is in the British Museum.

*Denver (Col.) City L.* The library statistics for 1897 are given as follows: Added 2558; total 31,806. Issued, home use 163,124; ref. use 45,999. Cards in force 13,996. Receipts \$7951.61; expenses \$7727.57.

The increase in the use of circulating books was 13 per cent., and in the reference department 29 per cent. Nine library bulletins listing all books received since 1893 were issued during 1897 without any expense to the library. There were 500 pieces of sheet and folio music added to the musical department. The museum has been turned over to the state historical society.

*Fairfield, Ia. Jefferson County L. A.* (Rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '97.) Added 483; total 17,049. Issued 7740; visitors to lib. 36,324.

*Fitchburg (Mass.) P. L.* (25th rpt.—year ending Nov. 30, '97.) Additions not given; total 32,857. Issued, home use 63,525, of which 41,844 were "literature" (there is no fiction classification), and 12,275 were juvenile. New cards issued 681; total cardholders 14,256. There was an attendance of 7288 in the ref. room. Receipts \$7658.28; expenses \$7631.85.

This report rounds out the first quarter century of the history of the library and of the librarian's service therein, and the opportunity is taken to give a summary of the library's growth during that period, within which it has increased from 8000 to over 30,000 v. A view of the library building is given as frontispiece.

*Galena (Ill.) P. L.* Added 640; total 4029. Issued, home use 23,322 (fict. 88 %). New cards issued 114; total cards in use 1472. Visitors to reading-room 29,944.

The library was opened on Jan. 3, 1895, the building being the gift of Mr. B. F. Felt, who has throughout been a most generous supporter of its work.

*Iowa State Univ., Des Moines.* In the biennial report of the board of regents recently filed with the governor, request is made for an appropriation of \$125,000 from the next legislature, and also that the income from the new collateral inheritance tax be applied to the support of the university. Of the sum asked,

\$75,000, in yearly instalments of \$15,000, is desired for the purchase of books, to re-stock the library, which was almost wholly destroyed in the fire of last summer.

*Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L.* A library league has been established among the children who use the library.

*Mississippi State L., Jackson.* The legislature has passed the following resolution:

"Whereas, The Mississippi State Library, which is of great value, being third in rank of the public law libraries of the United States, is being seriously damaged by water and is in immediate danger of serious injury and damage; and

"Whereas, There is a probability that it may become ruined by water before the next meeting of the legislature; be it

"Resolved, By the senate, the house concurring, that a committee, composed of three members of the senate and — on the part of the house, be appointed to confer with the board of public contracts and to urge upon said board the necessity of providing some place for the library, or for its protection in its present quarters, where it can be preserved for the benefit of the state."

*New Jersey State L., Trenton.* (Rpt.—year ending Oct. 31, '97.) Added 1872; total 48,986. Registered visitors, 2880. Col. Hamilton says: "It was stated in my last report that the opening of the valuable reference-books of the library to the young scholars of the state and city schools was an experiment fraught with much perplexity, and we found it so indeed. After the destruction of much paper and considerable injury to several books we were compelled to deprive the scholars of the use of ink, and, while we continue to furnish paper, insisted upon their supplying their own lead-pencils. However, this seems to make little difference in the number of attendants. During the nine school months of last year there was an average daily attendance during five days of the week of 43 pupils, amounting in gross to 7740 for the year. In fact, during the last two years, the library has become an essential referendary to the teachers of the public schools."

*New York F. C. L.* The plans of the library for the coming year contemplate the establishment of two new branches, the location of which have not yet been determined, although both will probably be on the east side of the city. It is also hoped to erect a new building for the Bloomingdale branch, on 100th street, between Amsterdam avenue and the Boulevard; the plans have not yet been perfected, but it will be an open-shelf library, with large reading-room on the second floor. The Muhlenberg branch will have to move on May 1, but the new location has not been decided upon. Provision has been made for hastening the much-needed printed catalogs, by adding to the force of catalogers, which now numbers five. An improvement in administration is the establishment of an apprentices' class from which vacancies in the regular library staff will be filled as they occur. The members of this class receive no salaries and pay no fees, the work that they do being considered an equivalent for the experience and knowledge that they gain from it. The open-shelf system is being extended grad-



ually and cautiously, the latest step being the opening of the shelves at the Jackson Square branch to the public from 9 till 12 in the morning, except on Saturdays and holidays.

*New York, lib. legislation in.* A new "education" law was introduced into the assembly on Feb. 24, which includes a revision of the entire school law and a revision of the university law, with many provisions of interest to libraries. The act, which would constitute chapter xxii. of the General laws, was read twice and ordered printed, and to be then referred to the committee on public education. It defines the field of "home education" as "that gained by individual reading and study or through libraries, museums, study clubs, classes, lectures and extension courses, correspondence, summer, evening, vacation and other continuation schools, and other agencies not a part of the state's common school system," and an interesting provision is that which states that "the state or other libraries may carry on or affiliate museums or any other feature of the work of home education." Travelling libraries are put on a definite basis by a provision (§ 636) authorizing their establishment and maintenance by the regents; specific definitions of the terms public library ("a chartered library for free public use, owned or controlled by a municipality or district"), and free library ("a library for free public use, but not owned or controlled by a municipality or district") are given, and details of local aid, organizations, taxes, etc., are consolidated and revised.

*New York, Mercantile L.* (77th rpt., 1897.) Added 5860; total 260,098. Issued 184,760 (fict., Eng., 53.21 %). Membership 3405, giving an increase for the year of 63. Reading-room attendance 25,727. Receipts \$27,508.62; expenses \$26,496.13.

The usual annual exhibition of art-books was held at the library Feb. 7-19.

*New York P. L.* Among the important gifts made to the library in February was a package of letters from different libraries and institutions to Alexandre Vattemare, received from the president of the trustees, Mr. John Bigelow, supplementing the valuable collection of documents regarding Vattemare, given by him to the library in 1897.

*New York State L., Albany.* (In Univ. of State of N. Y. Regents bulletin no. 43, Secretary's rpt., year ending Sept. 30, 1897.) "The most significant item of the year is the consolidated gift list omitted in the reports for 1895 and 1896, and printed in a single alphabet in the 1897 report. The gifts for the three years reach the magnificent total of 8975 v., 152,998 pm., and 6945 other pieces." This is exclusive of the great number of publications printed by and received from the state. In the catalog department 33,138 new cards were added to the official catalog. The evening use of the library has increased fivefold in the past five years. From January to April, 1897, 9133 books were called for, in addition to the large collection on the open shelves.

Summary record is made of the work of the library school, and that done in the advancement of home education, and considerable space is devoted to a strong plea for the necessity of a building for the state library.

The 78th and 79th reports of the state library for the years ending Sept. 30, 1895, and Sept. 30, 1896, have just been issued in two volumes, bearing imprint date of 1897. Naturally most of the information contained therein has previously been recorded. The volume for 1896 contains, in addition to the library report, the summary of legislation for 1895 (Legislation bulletin no. 6), and State Library bulletin, additions no. 4, recording the additions made to the medical division in 1895. To the 1896 report the appendixes are the summary of legislation for 1896; state finance statistics, 1890 and 1895 (Legislation bulletin no. 8), and State Library bulletin, Library school no. 2, being the Library school register, 1895-96, noted elsewhere. (See p. 117.)

*Norwood, Mass. Morrill Memorial L.* The new library building, which was dedicated on the afternoon of Feb. 1, is the gift of Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Morrill, in memory of their daughter.

*Norwich, Mass. Otis L.* (Rpt.—year ending Aug. 31, '97.) Added 1578; total 21,132. Issued, home use 101,714 (fict. 52.50 %); no record of lib. use is kept. New registration 888; total registration 6644. Receipts \$7043.29; expenses \$6870.56.

The Sunday attendance in the reading-room from October to June was 1511, and Mr. Trumbull recommends the continuance of Sunday opening. The library supplies books to a university settlement club, formed among mill operatives in a distant quarter of the city; 17 % of the books supplied were in the French language. Mr. Trumbull recommends, for the library's better equipment, more shelf-room for government publications, a children's department, and a printed supplement to the catalog.

*Ohio, lib. legislation in.* The first compulsory library law to be introduced into Ohio was recently presented in the state legislature by Representative Sullivan. It provides that in all cities with a population of between 5000 and 10,000, having already a free incorporated library, the local board of education must levy an annual tax of not less than three-tenths and not over five-tenths of a mill, to be known as a public library fund, and to be paid over to the trustees of the library and used in purchase of books or for general expenses. This tax "shall be in lieu of all other taxes levied for school library purposes."

*Philadelphia F. L.* (2d rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, '97.) Additions not stated; total 153,284, of which 45,766 are in the central library, and 23,602 in the Wagner Institute branch. Home use 1,587,157 (fict. 1,221,677). Receipts \$127,226.53; expenses \$124,891.96.

Mr. Thomson states that his report is mainly the record of "a period of gratifying progress." The library system now comprises the central

library, with its travelling library department, and 11 branches, two of which were established during the year; three others are in process of organization. Through the travelling library department 87 cases of books, or travelling libraries, have been located in suitable places. "In this way 2910 books are left for stated periods at 23 telegraph stations, 47 fire-engine stations, six police stations, and other localities." The circulation for home use is about 300,000 in excess of that of the Chicago Public Library, and over 500,000 more than the record of the Boston Public Library, given in its 45th report.

*St. Louis (Mo.) Mercantile L. A.* (52d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '97.) Added 5329; total 101,519. Issued, home use 96,166 (fict. 70.24%); attendance 181,275. New members 215; total membership 3455. Receipts \$58,161.72; expenses \$55,144.47.

The adoption of a rule permitting members to draw three books at a time, provided but one is fiction, has had interesting results, the statistics for the six months, July–Dec., 1897, being, non-fiction 16,604 v., fiction 32,877 v., as against non-fiction 9849, and fiction 35,043 in the same period of 1896.

*St. Paul (Minn.) P. L.* The 16th report of the library, submitted to the directors on Jan. 3, gave the following facts: Added 3102; total 44,890. Issued, home use 208,640; ref. use 54,618. Cards issued 5757; total cards in use 11,792. Receipts \$17,530.41; expenses \$14,700.

"The most noticeable change was setting apart of a room for the use of children, by which they have been better accommodated, and other parts of the library greatly relieved."

*Salt Lake City (Utah) P. L.* The library was formally opened on the evening of Feb. 18, in its pleasant quarters in the city and county building. A large audience was present, and the principal address was by Col. T. G. Webber, president of the board of directors, who gave a summary of the history of the library; a public reception followed. The library was opened for business on Feb. 15, and its use has been remarkably large. Miss Chapman is librarian.

*Scranton (Pa.) P. L.* (7th rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '97.) Added 3191; total 39,581. Issued, home use 156,574 (fict. 76.79%); ref. use 5092. New registration 2182; cards in use 8096. Receipts \$11,856.18; expenses \$10,671.37.

A combined branch reading-room and delivery station was opened for the south side section of the city, on Dec. 2; if it proves successful it will be continued, and may be followed by the establishment of other similar branches.

*Schenectady (N. Y.) F. P. L. A.* According to the third annual report the 1897 statistics of the library are as follows: Added 1309; total 5385. Issued 31,858, an increase of 8595 over the year before. New cards issued 552; total no. borrowers 1987. Receipts \$7089.08; expenses \$6899.40.

*University of Michigan L., Ann Arbor.* (Rpt.—Oct. 1, '96–June 30, '97.) Added, general l. 6414; total 113,990 (of which 91,112 are in the

general l. Ref. use 128,398; home use (by faculty) 7000. This is an increase of 2% over the 12 months of 1895–96. The daily average of readers in the reading-room was 160, of which 55% were men and 45% women.

*Utica (N. Y.) P. L.* On Feb. 2 the trustees decided that in the future the library should be open for reading-room use from 2 to 6 p.m. on Sunday afternoon. The results have been entirely successful; "with no special advertising, on each Sunday there was an attendance of 74, and not people who come on week-days as a rule." Much appreciation of the change has been expressed. Miss Underhill says: "We have had current numbers of magazines only since Jan. 1, and even now there is no regulation reading-room. The magazines are kept in small racks put up in the ends of the stacks, and the people help themselves to magazines and seats as they can find a chance."

*Washington (D. C.) F. L.* (2d rpt.—year ending Dec. 31, '97.) Added 3028; total 11,265. Issued, home use 120,975 (fict. 78%). New registration 1150; total registration 10,099. Receipts \$4709.28; expenses \$4108.71.

The work of the library is still remarkably in excess of its equipment. Gen. Greely says: "We have nearly one borrower for every book. The average number of volumes used per day is 477, so that the circulation of each month exceeds in number the total volumes in the library. It had been hoped that subscriptions might be forthcoming to such an extent as to allow the hiring of a third room and the establishment of a suitable reading-room. While the library has been unusually favored with subscriptions, notably a gift of \$1000 by Mr. Andrew Carnegie, yet its entire revenue has been barely sufficient to maintain operations in its present cramped and insufficient quarters."

*Youngstown (O.) L. A.* The library trustees have made formal application that the present name of the association be changed to the Reuben McMillan Free Library Association. On Jan. 3 a subscription of \$1000 was added to the library fund by cable from C. J. Morse, a former resident of Youngstown, now in Kyoto, Japan.

#### FOREIGN.

*Aberdeen (Scott.) P. L.* (13th rpt.—year ending Sept. 30, '97.) Added 1736; total 46,957. Issued, home use 206,075 (fict. 50.41%); juv. 16.60%; ref. use 13,438; reading-room use 51,316. New cards issued 8506.

The home use of books shows an increase of 6575 for the year. There were bound or rebound 1100 v., at an average cost of 1s. 1d. for the former, and 2s. for the latter.

*Bradford (Eng.) P. F. Ls.* (Rpt.—year ending Aug. 12, '97.) Added 13,662; total 93,763 (not including 76 v. of books for the blind). Issued 602,108, of which 82,683 were from the central lending department ("general literature and fict." 482,340). Borrowers enrolled during year 10,860; total visits to libs. 921,135. "The proportion of female borrowers, being nearly one-half of the whole, is higher than that of

any of the larger public libraries, and is probably due to the provision of a separate issue-counter in the lending library, and the separate reading-rooms which are devoted to their use."

*Manchester (Eng.) P. F. Ls.* (45th rpt., 1896-97.) Added, ref. l. 3359; total 110,358; issued 437,798; no. readers 364,506. Added, lending ls. 4821; total 159,065; issued 963,127; new registration, 17,189, cards in force 47,603.

The total use of books, including reading-room use and that of week-days and Sundays, is given as 2,082,133, the total no. of readers and borrowers as 2,004,232, and total no. of users, including visitors to news-rooms, as 6,208,410. Besides the central lending and reference libraries, there are 11 branches, all of which have separate news-rooms, and five reading-rooms that are also used as delivery stations.

*Ontario, Can., Libs. in.* (In rpt. of Minister of education, 1897, p. 129.) There are 323 public libraries (of which 78 are free) reported as receiving government aid in the province, 32 libraries did not report, and eight have been incorporated since the close of the date of report. The libraries are listed in a three-page tabulation, arranged under counties or districts, and the summary is given as follows: Public libraries reporting 245; free libraries reporting 78, public libraries not reporting 32, free libraries not reporting 5, public libraries incorporated since April 30, 1897, 8; total 368.

### Gifts and Bequests.

*Columbia University L.* On March 8 it was announced that Columbia University Library had received a gift of \$1,100,000 from Joseph F. Loubat, of New York, to constitute a memorial endowment fund, under the name of the Gailard-Loubat library endowment fund. This is the largest gift to a public institution made in New York for years, and puts the Columbia library upon an enviable basis. Mr. Loubat, who received the title of Duc de Loubat from the Vatican about five years ago, was born in New York in 1831, and inherited great wealth. He has always been a friend of Columbia, having established two five-yearly prizes, one of \$1000 and a second of \$400, awarded for the best works published in the English language on the history, geography, numismatics, archaeology, ethnology, and philology of North America. They may be competed for by any citizen of any country, whether connected with the university or not, but the university has power at will to direct the competition by calling for the investigation of certain questions as theses for the works to be entered in the contest. His magnificent gift to the library consists of Broadway real estate, and the valuation set upon it is considered a conservative estimate.

The university has received a gift of \$12,500, which is to be used to purchase new books for the library. \$5000 of the amount is given by President Low, and the name of the giver of the balance is not known.

*Crawfordsville, Ind.* Gen. Lew Wallace announced early in February that at his death the "study" erected recently on his estate will be left to the city of Crawfordsville for a public library. The building cost \$40,000.

*Gloversville (N. Y.) L.* By the will of the late Mrs. Electa A. Fay, who died Feb. 1, the Gloversville Free Library is to receive the bequest of interest-bearing securities amounting to \$25,000. The principal of this bequest is to be kept intact and as a separate fund to be known as the "Fay legacy."

### Librarians.

BATEMAN, Robert, librarian of the Carlisle (Eng.) Public Library, has been appointed chief librarian and curator of the Oldham (Eng.) Public Libraries.

BOLTON, Charles Knowles, librarian of the Brookline (Mass.) Public Library, was on Feb. 21 appointed librarian of the Boston Athenæum, succeeding Mr. W. C. Lane, recently appointed librarian of Harvard University. Mr. Bolton's library record though short, is a full one, and his succession to the Athenæum does not come as a surprise. He is a graduate of Harvard, of the class of 1890, and after spending some time in Europe became assistant in the Harvard Library, where, on Mr. Lane's appointment to the Athenæum, he succeeded him in charge of the cataloging department. In December, 1893, he was elected librarian of the Brookline Public Library, which, during the four years of his incumbency, has been developed and broadened in many directions. He was secretary and treasurer of the Brookline Educational Society in 1896 and 1897, and was one of the organizers of the Brookline Historical Publication Society, in connection with which he published a history of Brookline last year. Mr. Bolton has also been active in advancing general library interests, and has served as president and vice-president of the Massachusetts Library Club, and as treasurer of the A. L. A. He has done considerable literary work, having published several volumes in addition to contributing frequently to the magazines.

BURSCH, Daniel F. W., has resigned his position as librarian of the Portland (Ore.) Library Association, and has been succeeded by D. P. Leach, formerly assistant in the library. Mr. Bursch was granted three months' leave of absence in 1897, to return east for family reasons, and on expiration of that term found it impossible to resume his work at Portland. Mr. Leach has been connected with the library for the past seven or eight years.

CRAIGIE, Mrs. Mary E., was in February appointed director of the Brooklyn (N. Y.) Public Library. Mrs. Craigie was one of the organizers of the Brooklyn Public Library Association, through whose efforts the library was established, and has been associated with the work of the library from the beginning.

EDWARDS, Miss Ella M., a former student of the New York State Library School, has been appointed librarian of the Buffalo Historical Society. Miss Edwards had spent a year cataloging the library of the society, completing the work begun by Miss Biscoe.

HAYES, John S., librarian of the City Library of Somerville, Mass., for the past four years, died at his home in Somerville on March 7. Mr. Hayes was born in Durham, N. H., July 5, 1841, and was for many years a teacher, having been principal of the Cradock School in Medford, the Bowditch School in Peabody, and other large Massachusetts schools. He was also for five years connected with the publishing house of D. Appleton & Co. In April, 1893, he succeeded Miss H. A. Adams as librarian of the Somerville City Library, which under his management was largely reorganized and extended. Mr. Hayes had been a resident of Somerville since 1878, and for the 15 years prior to his election as librarian had been principal of the Forster Grammar School in that city. He was prominent in educational circles and active in all public affairs, and was especially interested in Masonic activities, in which he had long taken a chief part. A widow and a daughter survive him.

IMHOFF, Miss Ona Mary, a student at the N. Y. State Library School, 1896-98, has been appointed first assistant cataloger of the Carnegie Library, Pittsburg, Pa.

LARNED, J. N., contributes to the March number of the *Atlantic* a most interesting study of "England's present industrial and economic crisis," which is an historical and economic investigation of the industrial weakness that he believes underlies the present "imperial movement," and that may prove a serious menace to British supremacy.

POTTHAST, Dr. August, librarian of the German Reichstag, died recently at the age of 74 years. He was the author of the "*Bibliotheca historica medii ævi*," one of the first and most useful guides to the scientific study of the history of the Middle Ages.

SKINNER, Miss Marie A., a student at the N. Y. State Library School, 1896-97, has been appointed librarian of the State Normal School at Oshkosh, Wis.

SMITH, Joseph P., director of the Bureau of American Republics, died on Feb. 5 at Miami, Fla. Mr. Smith was appointed state librarian of Ohio in 1892, and held that office until his appointment to the Bureau of American Republics, in March, 1897. He was born in West Union, Ohio, August 7, 1856, and was for many years a journalist and editor in that state.

STILLMAN, Miss Minna A. Miss M. L. Titcomb, of the Rutland (Vt.) Free Library, writes: "Miss Minna A. Stillman, whose tragic death was noticed in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for February, was not cataloger in the Rutland Public Library, as was stated, but was librarian of the H. H. Baxter Memorial Library, a reference library of this place."

WETZEL, Miss Bertha S., a student at the N. Y. State Library School, 1890, is reorganizing the Reading Library at Reading, Pa.

### Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for February, 1898, begins the publication of a "Bibliography of Boston." It is to cover, 1, official documents of the town; 2, official documents of the city; 3, publications relating to town and city.

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Bulletin of books added during the year 1897. Cincinnati, 1897. [1898.] 74 p. 1. O.

DARUTY de Grandpré, Marguis. Vade-mecum du bibliothécaire, ou règles pratiques pour la rédaction des catalogues et le classement des volumes, suivies d'une instruction raisonnée sur le format des livres. Paris, Em. Paul et fils et Guillemin, 1897. 64 p. 1. 8°. Avec tableaux synoptiques. 3 fr.

NEW YORK FREE CIRCULATING L. Catalogue George Bruce Branch (founded in 1888), at 226 West 42d street; classified catalogue according to the Dewey decimal classification: English books. New York, 1897. 4 + 220 p.

The D. C. class list is followed by Adult fiction, author and title lists, Juvenile fiction, author and title lists; List of books for boys and girls (by authors and subjects of biographies); Author index, including index to biography; and Subject index. This arrangement should render consultation of the catalog simple enough to meet all needs. The printing, by the linotype, is so "solid" and monotonous as to make the catalog rather tiring to the eyes.

— Books for young people in the George Bruce Branch. 42 p. O.

A reprint of the three juvenile divisions of the larger catalog.

The N. Y. P. L. Bulletin for February lists the "Periodicals relating to zoölogy," and the "Periodicals relating to meteorology" contained in that library and in the library of Columbia University, and continues the printing of documents from the Emmet collection.

The OTIS (Norwich, Ct.) L. Bulletin for March has a short reference list on Cuba and Spain.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. Bulletin for January contains special catalog no. 20 on "Lives of Washington" contained in the library, which is prefaced by a valuable bibliographical note. The reference list (no. 53) is devoted to California.

ST. LOUIS (Mo.) MERCANTILE L. Reference lists, I: 1, Missouri and Illinois newspapers, 1808-



1897, chronologically arranged; 2, Manuscripts relating to Louisiana Territory and Missouri. St. Louis, February, 1898. 24 p. D.

The SOMERVILLE (Mass.) P. L. *Bulletin* for February contains a special reading list on China, Korea, and Japan.

STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF WISCONSIN. I., Some suggestions to local historians, in view of the proposed observances of the state's semi-centennial anniversary; II., A selected list of printed material relating to the history of Wisconsin; issued by the State Historical Society, Feb. 2, 1898. Madison, 1898. 24 p. O. (Semi-centennial circular, no. 4.)

TURTS L., *Weymouth, Mass.* Bulletin no. 31.  
Jan. 1, 1898. 32 p. O.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE. Library  
bulletin, February, 1898. Accessions to the  
department library. October - December,  
1897. 24 p. [printed on one side only] O.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK. Extension bulletin no. 23, January, 1898. Study clubs: annual report, 1897. Albany, 1898. 90 p. O. 10 c.

The report is for the year ending Sept. 30, 1897, and records 186 registered study clubs, being a gain of 64 during the year.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.  
State Library bulletin, Bibliography no. 5,  
January, 1898: Selection of reference books  
for use of cataloguers in finding full names.  
Albany, 1898. [20 p.] O. 5 c.

A list that cannot fail to be useful in all libraries. The reference works included are classed under General cyclopedias and dictionaries, Countries, and Special subjects, the latter including anonyms and pseudonyms, professions, denominations, etc. Under the first heading Vapereau's "Dictionnaire universel des litterateurs" is not found, although his "Dictionnaire universel des contemporains" is listed under "Contemporaries"; mention of the LIBRARY JOURNAL's lists of full names, and of the necrology record in the "Annual literary index" might also have been made, and an index would have added to the ready consultation of the list.

UNIVERSITY OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.  
State library bulletin, Legislation no. 9: legis-  
lation by states in 1897; 8th annual compara-  
tive summary and index. Albany, Univ. of  
the State of N. Y., 1898. p. 487-736, O. 25 c.

The WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for February has a classed special list on Egypt.

**CHANGED TITLES.**

I HAVE just discovered another instance of the same work under two different titles, and with the same preface. In 1880 was published by Seeley, Jackson & Halliday, London, "A traveller's true tale; after the Greek of Lucian of Samosata," by A. J. Church. In 1891 was published by Seeley & Co., London, and by Macmillan & Co., New York, "The Greek Gulliver: stories from Lucian," by A. J. Church. In one work the illustrations are engravings in black and white, in the other the same plates are colored.

MARY MEDICOTT.

**FULL NAMES.**

*The following are supplied by Harvard College Library.*

Abernethy, W: Ellis (Speeches);  
Baker, Moses Nelson, *ed.* (The manual of  
American waterworks):

Ballard, Tilghman Ethan } (The annual on  
and } the law of real

Ballard, Emerson Etheridge } property);  
Barton, W: Eleazer (A hero in homespun):

Blodgett, James Harvey (Report on education in the U. S. at the eleventh census: 1890):

Burdick, Francis Marion (The law of sales of personal property);

Church, Alonzo Webster { Important serial documents pub-

Baker, James M.

Cobb, Sanford Hoadley (The story of the

Palatines);  
Conway, James Joseph (The beginnings of

ecclesiastical jurisdiction in the archdiocese of St. Louis, 1764-1776);

Crawford, T: Dwight (A digest of the decisions of the supreme court of Arkansas);

Dewey, D: Brainard (Address [on bank credits] delivered at Springfield, Ill., Oct. 15,

Ditmars, Raymond Lee (The snakes found

within fifty miles of New York city);  
Evans, C. H.: (Comparison of the Dingley tariff

Fisk, G: Mygatt (Die handelspolitischen und

sonstigen völkerrechtlichen Beziehungen zwischen Deutschland und U. S. von Ameri-

Garrett, Edmund H: (Romance and reality of

the Puritan coast);  
Gatchell, Merle Smith (The study of mediæval

history by the library method for high schools);

Hubbard, Augustine G: (History of the town of Goshen, Ct.);

Hillebrand, W: Francis, *joint author* (Analyses of rocks);

Kern, J: Adam (The ministry to the congregation);

Lambert, Preston Albert (Analytic geometry);  
Madeira, L: Cephias (Annals of music in  
Philadelphia - 2 by Philip H. Gove)

Philadelphia, ed. by Philip H. Goepp);  
Putnam, G. Haven

## Bibliography.

AFRICA. Thornton, Douglas M. Africa waiting; or, the problem of Africa's evangelization. London, Student Volunteer Missionary Union, 1897. 12+148 p. 12°.

Contains a 6-page bibliography, selected and arranged with special reference to missions, the slave trade, and the drink traffic in Africa.

BERGHMAN, G. Nouvelle études sur la bibliographie Elzevérienne: supplément à l'ouvrage sur les Elzeviers de M. Alphonse Willems. Stockholm, Imp. Iduns tryckerie aktiebolag, 1897. 17+172 p. 8°.

Reviewed in the *Centralblatt f. Bibliothekswesen*, Jan.-Feb., 1898, p. 67.

BERMUDA. Cole, G. Watson. Bermuda in periodical literature: a bibliography. Boston, Bost. Book Co., 1898. 28 p. T. (*Bulletin of Bibliography pamphlets*, no. 2.)

Reprinted from the Boston Book Co.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography*; annotated and arranged alphabetically under name of periodical.

BOSSUET. Bourseaud, H. M. Histoire et description des manuscrits et des éditions originales des ouvrages de Bossuet, avec l'indication des traductions qui en ont été faites et des écrits auxquels ils ont donné lieu à l'époque de leur publication. Nouvelle édition, revue et augmentée. Paris, Picard & fils, 1897. 37+237 p. 8°. 10 fr.

CHARLEMAGNE. Wells, C. L. The age of Charlemagne, Charles the Great. N. Y., Christian Literature Co., 1898. 19+472 p. D. (Ten epochs in church hist.) \$2.

The preface contains a bibliography, p. 15-19.

MUSIC. Matthew, Ja. E. A handbook of musical history and bibliography, from St. Gregory to the present time. N. Y., Putnam, 1898. 12+486 p. il. O. \$3.50.

A revision of the "Manual of musical history," published in 1892.

OHIO RIVER. Thwaites, Reuben Gold. Afloat on the Ohio: an historical pilgrimage of a thousand miles in a skiff, from Redstone to Cairo. Chicago, Way & Williams, 1897. 14+334 p. 12°. \$1.50.

Contains a 9-page annotated "Selected list of journals of previous travellers down the Ohio."

PHILANTHROPHY. Fairchild, Mrs. Salome Cutler. Scientific study of philanthropy; with outline of study and bibliography, by Isabel Ely Lord. Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, [Educational Church Board, Albany, N. Y.] 1898. 16 p. O. 25c.

Reprinted from the *Am. Journal of Sociology*,

v. 3, no. 4, Jan., 1898. An interesting amplification of the suggestions regarding a scientific knowledge of philanthropic work, advanced in the article on "Home libraries" in the LIBRARY JOURNAL for February, 1896. Miss Lord's careful classed bibliography fills 10 nonpareil pages; it is a piece of Library School work, having been submitted as a graduation bibliography for the degree of B.L.S.

PLATINUM METALS. Howe, Ja. Lewis. Bibliography of the metals of the platinum group: platinum, palladium, iridium, rhodium, osmium, ruthenium, 1748-1896. City of Washington, published by the Smithsonian Institution, 1897. 318 p. 8°. (Smithsonian miscellaneous collections, v. 38, no. 1084.)

Arranged chronologically, and supplemented by full subject and author indexes.

SLAVERY. Smith, Theodore Clarke. The liberty and free-soil parties in the northwest; Toppan prize essay of 1896. N. Y., Longmans, 1897. 11+351 p. maps, O. (Harvard hist. studies, v. 6.) \$1.75.

There is a bibliography on pages 309-317.

TOURNEUX, Maurice. La bibliothèque des Goncourt: étude, suivie d'un essai bibliographique sur l'œuvre des deux frères. Paris, Leclerc et Cornuau, 1897. 49 p. 8°.

Reprinted from the *Bulletin du Bibliophile*.

VIGNY, A. de. Curzon, Henri de. Bibliographie des ouvrages relatifs à Alfred de Vigny. Besançon, Imp. Jacquin, 1897. 8 p. 8°.

Reprinted from the *Bibliographie Moderne*.

WHITE, Charles Abiathar. Stanton, Timothy W. Supplement to the annotated catalogue of the published writings of Charles Abiathar White, 1886-1897; from the Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum, v. 20, p. 627-642 [no. 1135]. Washington, Gov. Print. Office, 1898. [16 p.] O. (Smithsonian Institution: U. S. National Museum).

The present list brings Dr. White's personal bibliography down to 1897, listing 61 titles, which are arranged chronologically. The total number of works recorded in the original catalog and the present supplement are 211.

## INDEXES.

FLETCHER, W. I., and BOWKER, R. R., ed. The annual literary index, 1897; including periodicals, American and English; essays, book-chapters, etc.; with author-index, bibliographies, necrology, and index to dates of principal events; edited with the co-operation of the American Library Association and of the LIBRARY JOURNAL staff. N. Y., Office of the *Publishers' Weekly*, 1897. 10+244 p. O. \$3.50.

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